

House of Representatives

File No. 799

General Assembly

January Session, 2017

(Reprint of File No. 688)

Substitute House Bill No. 7311 As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner May 26, 2017

AN ACT CONCERNING LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES AND BUSINESS CORPORATIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 33-756 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 3 (a) [A director shall discharge his duties as a director, including his
- 4 duties as a member of a committee] Each member of the board of
- 5 directors, when discharging the duties of a director, shall act: (1) In
- 6 good faith; [(2) with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like
- 7 position would exercise under similar circumstances; and (3)] and (2)
- 8 in a manner [he] the director reasonably believes to be in the best
- 9 interests of the corporation.
- 10 [(b) In discharging his duties a director is entitled to rely on
- 11 information, opinions, reports or statements, including financial
- 12 statements and other financial data, if prepared or presented by: (1)
- 13 One or more officers or employees of the corporation whom the
- 14 director reasonably believes to be reliable and competent in the

15 matters presented; (2) legal counsel, public accountants or other

- 16 persons as to matters the director reasonably believes are within the
- 17 person's professional or expert competence; or (3) a committee of the
- 18 board of directors of which he is not a member if the director
- 19 reasonably believes the committee merits confidence.
- 20 (c) A director is not acting in good faith if he has knowledge
- 21 concerning the matter in question that makes reliance otherwise
- 22 permitted by subsection (b) of this section unwarranted.
- 23 (d) For purposes of sections 33-817, 33-830, 33-831, 33-841 and 33-
- 24 844, a director of a corporation which has a class of voting stock
- 25 registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of
- 26 1934, as the same has been or hereafter may be amended from time to
- 27 time, in addition to complying with the provisions of subsections (a) to
- 28 (c), inclusive, of this section, may consider, in determining what he
- 29 reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation, (1) the
- 30 long-term as well as the short-term interests of the corporation, (2) the
- 31 interests of the shareholders, long-term as well as short-term,
- 32 including the possibility that those interests may be best served by the
- 33 continued independence of the corporation, (3) the interests of the
- 34 corporation's employees, customers, creditors and suppliers, and (4)
- 35 community and societal considerations including those of any
- 36 community in which any office or other facility of the corporation is
- 37 located. A director may also in his discretion consider any other factors
- 38 he reasonably considers appropriate in determining what he
- reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the corporation.
- 40 (e) A director is not liable for any action taken as a director, or any
- 41 failure to take any action, if he performed the duties of his office in
- 42 compliance with this section.
- 43 (f) A director is not liable under this section for any act or omission
- 44 in the course of performing the duties of a director under subsection
- 45 (a) of section 33-1358 if the director performed such duties in
- 46 compliance with this section and section 33-1358.]

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(b) The members of the board of directors or a board committee, when becoming informed in connection with their decision-making 48 49 function or devoting attention to their oversight function, shall 50 discharge their duties with the care that a person in a like position would reasonably believe appropriate under similar circumstances.

- (c) In discharging board or committee duties, a director shall disclose, or cause to be disclosed, to the other board or committee members information not already known by them but known by the director to be material to the discharge of their decision-making or oversight functions, except that disclosure is not required to the extent that the director reasonably believes that doing so would violate a duty imposed under law, a legally enforceable obligation of confidentiality, or a professional ethics rule.
- 60 (d) In discharging board or committee duties, a director who does 61 not have knowledge that makes reliance unwarranted is entitled to 62 rely on the performance by any of the persons specified in subdivision (1) or (3) of subsection (f) of this section to whom the board may have 63 64 delegated, formally or informally by course of conduct, the authority 65 or duty to perform one or more of the board's functions that are 66 delegable under applicable law.
- 67 (e) In discharging board or committee duties, a director who does 68 not have knowledge that makes reliance unwarranted is entitled to 69 rely on information, opinions, reports or statements, including 70 financial statements and other financial data, prepared or presented by 71 any of the persons specified in subsection (f) of this section.
- 72 (f) A director is entitled to rely, in accordance with subsection (d) or 73 (e) of this section, on: (1) One or more officers or employees of the 74 corporation whom the director reasonably believes to be reliable and 75 competent in the functions performed or the information, opinions, 76 reports or statements provided; (2) legal counsel, public accountants or 77 other persons retained by the corporation as to matters involving skills or expertise the director reasonably believes are matters (A) within the

particular person's professional or expert competence, or (B) as to which the particular person merits confidence; or (3) a board committee of which the director is not a member if the director reasonably believes the committee merits confidence.

- 83 (g) For the purposes of sections 33-817, as amended by this act, 33-830, 33-831, 33-841 and 33-844, a director of a corporation that has a 84 85 class of voting stock registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as the same has been or hereafter may be 86 87 amended from time to time, in addition to complying with the 88 provisions of subsections (a) to (c), inclusive, of this section, may consider, in determining what the director reasonably believes to be in 89 the best interests of the corporation, (1) the long-term as well as the 90 91 short-term interests of the corporation, (2) the interests of the 92 shareholders, long-term as well as short-term, including the possibility that those interests may be best served by the continued independence 93 of the corporation, (3) the interests of the corporation's employees, 94 95 customers, creditors and suppliers, and (4) community and societal 96 considerations, including those of any community in which any office 97 or other facility of the corporation is located. A director may also consider, in the discretion of such director, any other factors the 98 99 director reasonably considers appropriate in determining what the 100 director reasonably believes to be in the best interests of the 101 corporation.
- Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) A director shall not be liable to the corporation or its shareholders for any decision to take or not to take action, or any failure to take any action, as a director, unless the party asserting liability in a proceeding establishes that:
- (1) No defense interposed by the director based on (A) any provision in the certificate of incorporation authorized by subdivision (4) or (6) of subsection (b) of section 33-636 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or (B) the protection afforded by section 33-782 of the general statutes, for action taken in compliance with section 33-783 or 33-784 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, or (C) the

protection afforded by section 33-785 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, precludes liability of the director; and

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- (2) The challenged conduct consisted of or was the result of (A) an action not in good faith; (B) a decision (i) which the director did not reasonably believe to be in the best interests of the corporation, or (ii) as to which the director was not informed to an extent the director reasonably believed appropriate in the circumstances; (C) a lack of objectivity due to the director's familial, financial or business relationship with, or a lack of independence due to the director's domination or control by, another person having a material interest in the challenged conduct (i) which relationship or which domination or control could reasonably be expected to have affected the director's judgment respecting the challenged conduct in a manner adverse to the corporation, and (ii) after a reasonable expectation to such effect has been established, the director has not established that the challenged conduct was reasonably believed by the director to be in the best interests of the corporation; (D) a sustained failure of the director to devote attention to ongoing oversight of the business and affairs of the corporation, or a failure to devote timely attention, by making, or causing to be made, appropriate inquiry, when particular facts and circumstances of significant concern materialize that would alert a reasonably attentive director to the need for such inquiry; or (E) the receipt of a financial benefit to which the director was not entitled or any other breach of the director's duties to deal fairly with the corporation and its shareholders that is actionable under applicable law.
- (b) The party seeking to hold the director liable:
- (1) For money damages, shall also have the burden of establishing that (A) harm to the corporation or its shareholders has been suffered, and (B) the harm suffered was proximately caused by the director's challenged conduct;
- 143 (2) For other money payment under a legal remedy, such as

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144 compensation for the unauthorized use of corporate assets, shall also

- 145 have whatever persuasion burden may be called for to establish that
- the payment sought is appropriate in the circumstances; or
- 147 (3) For other money payment under an equitable remedy, such as
- profit recovery by or disgorgement to the corporation, shall also have
- 149 whatever persuasion burden may be called for to establish that the
- 150 equitable remedy sought is appropriate in the circumstances.
- 151 (c) Nothing in this section shall:
- 152 (1) In any instance where fairness is at issue, such as consideration
- of the fairness of a transaction to the corporation under subdivision (3)
- of subsection (b) of section 33-782 of the general statutes, alter the
- burden of proving the fact or lack of fairness otherwise applicable;
- 156 (2) Alter the fact or lack of liability of a director under any provision
- in sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes such as
- the provisions governing the consequences of an unlawful distribution
- under section 33-757 of the general statutes or a transactional interest
- under section 33-782 of the general statutes; or
- 161 (3) Affect any rights to which the corporation or a shareholder may
- be entitled under another chapter of the general statutes or a section of
- the United States Code.
- Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2017) As used in this section and
- sections 4 to 10, inclusive, of this act:
- 166 (1) "Corporate action" means any action taken by or on behalf of the
- 167 corporation, including any action taken by the incorporator, the board
- of directors, a committee of the board of directors, an officer or agent
- of the corporation or the shareholders.
- 170 (2) "Date of the defective corporate action" means the date, or the
- approximate date if the exact date is unknown, the defective corporate
- action was purported to have been taken.

(3) "Defective corporate action" means (A) any corporate action purportedly taken that is, and at the time such corporate action was purportedly taken would have been, within the power of the corporation, but that is void or voidable due to a failure of authorization, and (B) an overissue.

- (4) "Failure of authorization" means the failure to authorize, approve or otherwise effect a corporate action in compliance with the provisions of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes, the certificate of incorporation or bylaws of the corporation, a corporate resolution or any plan or agreement to which the corporation is a party, if and to the extent such failure would render such corporate action void or voidable.
- (5) "Overissue" means the purported issuance of: (A) Shares of a class or series in excess of the number of shares of a class or series the corporation has the power to issue under section 33-665 of the general statutes at the time of such issuance; or (B) shares of any class or series that is not then authorized for issuance by the certificate of incorporation.
- (6) "Putative shares" means the shares of any class or series, including shares issued upon exercise of rights, options, warrants or other securities convertible into shares of the corporation, or interests with respect to such shares, that were created or issued as a result of a defective corporate action, that (A) but for any failure of authorization would constitute valid shares, or (B) cannot be determined by the board of directors to be valid shares.
- 198 (7) "Valid shares" means the shares of any class or series that have 199 been duly authorized and validly issued in accordance with sections 200 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes, including as a result 201 of ratification or validation under this section and sections 4 to 10, 202 inclusive, of this act.
- 203 (8) "Validation effective time" means, with respect to any defective 204 corporate action ratified under this section and sections 4 to 10,

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205 inclusive, of this act, the later of (A) the time at which the ratification of 206 the defective corporate action is approved by the shareholders, or if 207 approval of shareholders is not required, the time at which the notice 208 required by section 7 of this act becomes effective in accordance with 209 section 33-603 of the general statutes; and (B) the time at which any 210 certificate of validation filed in accordance with section 9 of this act 211 becomes effective. The validation effective time shall not be affected by 212 the filing or pendency of a judicial proceeding under section 10 of this 213 act or any other provision of law, unless otherwise ordered by the 214 Superior Court.

- Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) A defective corporate action shall not be void or voidable if ratified in accordance with section 5 of this act or validated in accordance with section 10 of this act.
- 219 (b) Ratification under section 5 of this act or validation under 220 section 10 of this act shall not be deemed to be the exclusive means of 221 ratifying or validating any defective corporate action, and the absence 222 or failure of ratification in accordance with sections 3 to 10, inclusive, 223 of this act shall not, of itself, affect the validity or effectiveness of any 224 corporate action ratified under common law or otherwise, nor shall it 225 create a presumption that any such corporate action is or was a 226 defective corporate action or void or voidable.
 - (c) In the case of an overissue, putative shares shall be valid shares effective as of the date originally issued or purportedly issued upon: (1) The effectiveness under sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act, and under sections 33-795 to 33-809, inclusive, of the general statutes of an amendment to the certificate of incorporation authorizing, designating or creating such shares; or (2) the effectiveness of any other corporate action under sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act, ratifying the authorization, designation or creation of such shares.

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Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) To ratify a defective corporate action under this section, other than the ratification of an

election of the initial board of directors under subsection (b) of this section, the board of directors shall take action ratifying the action in accordance with section 6 of this act, stating: (1) The defective corporate action to be ratified and, if the defective corporate action involved the issuance of putative shares, the number and type of putative shares purportedly issued; (2) the date of the defective corporate action; (3) the nature of the failure of authorization with respect to the defective corporate action to be ratified; and (4) that the board of directors approves the ratification of the defective corporate action.

- (b) In the event that a defective corporate action to be ratified relates to the election of the initial board of directors of the corporation under subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 33-639 of the general statutes, a majority of the persons who, at the time of the ratification, are exercising the powers of directors may take an action, stating: (1) The name of the person or persons who first took action in the name of the corporation as the initial board of directors of the corporation; (2) the earlier of the date on which such persons first took such action or were purported to have been elected as the initial board of directors; and (3) that the ratification of the election of such person or persons as the initial board of directors is approved.
- (c) If any provision of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes, the certificate of incorporation or bylaws, any corporate resolution or any plan or agreement to which the corporation is a party in effect at the time action under subsection (a) of this section is taken requires shareholder approval or would have required shareholder approval at the date of the defective corporate action, the ratification of the defective corporate action approved in the action taken by the directors under subsection (a) of this section shall be submitted to the shareholders for approval in accordance with section 6 of this act.
- (d) Unless otherwise provided in the action taken by the board of directors under subsection (a) of this section, after the action by the

board of directors has been taken and, if required, approved by the shareholders, the board of directors may abandon the ratification at any time before the validation effective time without further action of the shareholders.

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- Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) The quorum and voting requirements applicable to a ratifying action by the board of directors under subsection (a) of section 5 of this act shall be the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the corporate action proposed to be ratified at the time such ratifying action is taken.
- (b) If the ratification of the defective corporate action requires approval by the shareholders under subsection (c) of section 5 of this act, and if the approval is to be given at a meeting, the corporation shall notify each holder of valid and putative shares, regardless of whether entitled to vote, of the record date for notice of the meeting and of the date of the defective corporate action, except that notice shall not be required to be given to holders of valid or putative shares whose identities or addresses for notice cannot be determined from the records of the corporation. The notice must state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider ratification of a defective corporate action and must be accompanied by (1) either a copy of the action taken by the board of directors in accordance with subsection (a) of section 5 of this act or the information required by subdivisions (1) to (4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of section 5 of this act, and (2) a statement that any claim that the ratification of such defective corporate action and any putative shares issued as a result of such defective corporate action should not be effective, or should be effective only on certain conditions, shall be brought not later than one hundred twenty days after the applicable validation effective time.
- (c) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section with respect to the voting requirements to ratify the election of a director, the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the approval by the shareholders required by subsection (c) of section 5 of this act shall be the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the corporate action

proposed to be ratified at the time of such shareholder approval.

(d) The approval by shareholders to ratify the election of a director requires that the votes cast within the voting group favoring such ratification exceed the votes cast opposing such ratification of the election at a meeting at which a quorum is present.

- (e) Putative shares on the record date for determining the shareholders entitled to vote on any matter submitted to shareholders under subsection (c) of section 5 of this act, and without giving effect to any ratification of putative shares that becomes effective as a result of such vote, shall neither be entitled to vote nor counted for quorum purposes in any vote to approve the ratification of any defective corporate action.
- (f) If the approval under this section of putative shares would result in an overissue, in addition to the approval required by section 5 of this act, approval of an amendment to the certificate of incorporation under sections 33-795 to 33-809, inclusive, of the general statutes to increase the number of shares of an authorized class or series or to authorize the creation of a class or series of shares so there would be no overissue shall also be required.
 - Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) Unless shareholder approval is required under subsection (c) of section 5 of this act, prompt notice of an action taken under said section shall be given to each holder of valid and putative shares, regardless of whether entitled to vote, as of (1) the date of such action by the board of directors, and (2) the date of the defective corporate action ratified under sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act, provided notice shall not be required to be given to holders of valid and putative shares whose identities or addresses for notice cannot be determined from the records of the corporation.
- 332 (b) The notice must contain (1) either a copy of the action taken by 333 the board of directors in accordance with subsection (a) or (b) of 334 section 5 of this act, or the information required by subdivisions (1) to

(4), inclusive, of subsection (a) of said section or subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of subsection (b) of said section, as applicable, and (2) a statement that any claim that the ratification of the defective corporate action and any putative shares issued as a result of such defective corporate action should not be effective, or should be effective only on certain conditions, shall be brought not later than one hundred twenty days after the applicable validation effective time.

(c) No notice under this section is required with respect to any action required to be submitted to shareholders for approval under subsection (c) of section 5 of this act if notice is given in accordance with subsection (b) of section 6 of this act.

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- (d) A notice required by this section may be given in any manner permitted by section 33-603 of the general statutes and, for any corporation subject to the reporting requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as from time to time amended, may be given by means of a filing or furnishing of such notice with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
 - Sec. 8. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2017) From and after the validation effective time, and without regard to the one-hundredtwenty-day period during which a claim may be brought under section 10 of this act: (1) Each defective corporate action ratified in accordance with section 5 of this act shall not be void or voidable as a result of the failure of authorization identified in the action taken under subsection (a) or (b) of said section and shall be deemed a valid corporate action effective as of the date of the defective corporate action; (2) the issuance of each putative share or fraction of a putative share purportedly issued pursuant to a defective corporate action identified in the action taken under section 5 of this act shall not be void or voidable, and each such putative share or fraction of a putative share shall be deemed to be an identical share or fraction of a valid share as of the time it was purportedly issued; and (3) any corporate action taken subsequent to the defective corporate action ratified in accordance with sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act, in reliance on

such defective corporate action having been validly effected and any subsequent defective corporate action resulting directly or indirectly from such original defective corporate action, shall be valid as of the time taken.

- Sec. 9. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) If the defective corporate action ratified under sections 3 to 10, inclusive, of this act would have required under any other provision of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes a filing in accordance with sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes, then, whether or not a filing was previously made in respect to such defective corporate action and in lieu of a filing otherwise required by said sections of the general statutes, the corporation shall file a certificate of validation in accordance with this section, and such certificate of validation shall serve to amend or substitute for any other filing with respect to such defective corporate action required by said sections of the general statutes.
- (b) The certificate of validation must set forth: (1) The defective corporate action that is the subject of the certificate of validation including, in the case of any defective corporate action involving the issuance of putative shares, the number and type of putative shares issued and the date or dates upon which such putative shares were purported to have been issued; (2) the date of the defective corporate action; (3) the nature of the failure of authorization in respect of the defective corporate action was ratified in accordance with section 5 of this act, including the date on which the board of directors ratified such defective corporate action and the date, if any, on which the shareholders approved the ratification of such defective corporate action; and (5) the information required by subsection (c) of this section.
- (c) The certificate of validation must also contain the following information: (1) If a filing was previously made in respect to the defective corporate action and no changes to such filing are required to give effect to the ratification of such defective corporate action in

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accordance with section 5 of this act, the certificate of validation must set forth (A) the name, title and filing date of the filing previously made and any certificate of correction to that filing, and (B) a statement that a copy of the filing previously made, together with any certificate of correction to that filing, is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation; (2) if a filing was previously made in respect of the defective corporate action and such filing requires any change to give effect to the ratification of such defective corporate action in accordance with section 5 of this act, the certificate of validation must set forth (A) the name, title and filing date of the filing previously made and any certificate of correction to that filing, (B) a statement that a filing containing all of the information required to be included under the applicable provisions of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes to give effect to such defective corporate action is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, and (C) the date and time that such filing is deemed to have become effective; or (3) if a filing was not previously made in respect of the defective corporate action and the defective corporate action ratified under section 5 of this act would have required a filing under any other provision of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes, the certificate of validation must set forth (A) a statement that a filing containing all of the information required to be included under the applicable provision or provisions of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general statutes to give effect to such defective corporate action is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, and (B) the date and time that such filing is deemed to have become effective.

Sec. 10. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2017) (a) Upon application by the corporation, any successor entity to the corporation, a director of the corporation, any shareholder, beneficial shareholder or unrestricted voting trust beneficial owner of the corporation, including any such shareholder, beneficial shareholder or unrestricted voting trust beneficial owner as of the date of the defective corporate action ratified under section 5 of this act, or any other person claiming to be substantially and adversely affected by a ratification under section 5 of

435 this act, the Superior Court may (1) determine the validity and

- 436 effectiveness of any corporate action or defective corporate action; (2)
- determine the validity and effectiveness of any ratification under
- 438 section 5 of this act; (3) determine the validity of any putative shares;
- and (4) modify or waive any of the procedures specified in sections 5
- and 6 of this act to ratify a defective corporate action.
- 441 (b) In connection with an action under this section, the Superior
- 442 Court may make such findings or orders, and take into account any
- 443 factors or considerations, regarding such matters, as it deems proper
- 444 under the circumstances.
- 445 (c) Service of process of the application under subsection (a) of this
- section on the corporation may be made in any manner provided by
- any provision of the general statutes or by rule of the applicable court,
- and no other party need be joined in order for the Superior Court to
- 449 adjudicate the matter. In an action filed by the corporation, the
- 450 Superior Court may require notice of the action to be provided to other
- 451 persons specified by the Superior Court and permit such other persons
- 452 to intervene in the action.
- 453 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any
- 454 action asserting that the ratification of any defective corporate action
- and any putative shares issued as a result of such defective corporate
- action should not be effective, or should be effective only on certain
- 457 conditions, shall be brought not later than one hundred twenty days
- 458 after the validation effective time.
- Sec. 11. Subsection (a) of section 33-605 of the general statutes is
- 460 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 461 *October* 1, 2017):
- (a) For purposes of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, a qualified
- director is a director who, at the time action is to be taken under:
- 464 (1) Subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of section 33-636, as amended
- by this act, is not a director (A) to whom the limitation or elimination

of the duty of an officer to offer potential business opportunities to the

- 467 <u>corporation would apply, or (B) who has a material relationship with</u>
- any other person to whom the limitation or elimination would apply;
- [(1)] (2) Section 33-724, does not have (A) a material interest in the
- outcome of the proceeding, or (B) a material relationship with a person
- 471 who has such an interest;
- 472 [(2)] (3) Section 33-773 or 33-775, (A) is not a party to the proceeding,
- 473 (B) is not a director [who sought approval for] as to whom the
- 474 <u>transaction is</u> a director's conflicting interest transaction [under section
- 475 33-783] or who sought a disclaimer of the corporation's interest in a
- business opportunity under section 33-785, as amended by this act,
- 477 which [approval] transaction or disclaimer is challenged in the
- 478 proceeding, and (C) does not have a material relationship with a
- 479 director described in either subparagraph (A) or (B) of this
- 480 subdivision;
- 481 [(3)] (4) Section 33-783, is not a director (A) as to whom the
- 482 transaction is a director's conflicting interest transaction, or (B) who
- 483 has a material relationship with another director as to whom the
- 484 transaction is a director's conflicting interest transaction; or
- 485 [(4)] (5) Section 33-785, [would be a qualified director under
- subdivision (3) of this subsection if the business opportunity were a
- director's conflicting interest transaction] as amended by this act, is not
- 488 a director who (A) pursues or takes advantage of the business
- 489 opportunity, directly, or indirectly through or on behalf of another
- 490 person, or (B) has a material relationship with a director or officer who
- 491 pursues or takes advantage of the business opportunity, directly, or
- indirectly through or on behalf of another person.
- Sec. 12. Section 33-636 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 494 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 495 (a) The certificate of incorporation shall set forth: (1) A corporate
- and name for the corporation that satisfies the requirements of section 33-

497 655; (2) the number of shares the corporation is authorized to issue; (3) 498 the street <u>and mailing</u> address of the corporation's initial registered 499 office and the name of its initial registered agent at that office; and (4) 500 the name and address of each incorporator.

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(b) The certificate of incorporation may set forth: (1) The names and addresses of the individuals who are to serve as the initial directors; (2) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding: (A) The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized; (B) managing the business and regulating the affairs of the corporation; (C) defining, limiting and regulating the powers of the corporation, its board of directors and shareholders; (D) a par value for authorized shares or classes of shares; or (E) the imposition of personal liability on shareholders for the debts of the corporation to a specified extent and upon specified conditions; (3) any provision that under sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, is required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws; (4) a provision limiting the personal liability of a director to the corporation or its shareholders for [monetary] money damages for breach of duty as a director to an amount that is not less than the compensation received by the director for serving the corporation during the year of the violation if such breach did not (A) involve a knowing and culpable violation of law by the director, (B) enable the director or an associate, as defined in section 33-840, to receive an improper personal economic gain, (C) show a lack of good faith and a conscious disregard for the duty of the director to the corporation under circumstances in which the director was aware that his conduct or omission created an unjustifiable risk of serious injury to the corporation, (D) constitute a sustained and unexcused pattern of inattention that amounted to an abdication of the director's duty to the corporation, or (E) create liability under section 33-757, provided no such provision shall limit or preclude the liability of a director for any act or omission occurring prior to the effective date of such provision; [and] (5) a provision permitting or making obligatory indemnification of a director for liability, as defined in section 33-770, to any person for any action taken, or any failure to take any action, as a director, except

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liability that (A) involved a knowing and culpable violation of law by the director, (B) enabled the director or an associate, as defined in section 33-840, to receive an improper personal gain, (C) showed a lack of good faith and a conscious disregard for the duty of the director to the corporation under circumstances in which the director was aware that his conduct or omission created an unjustifiable risk of serious injury to the corporation, (D) constituted a sustained and unexcused pattern of inattention that amounted to an abdication of the director's duty to the corporation, or (E) created liability under section 33-757, provided no such provision shall affect the indemnification of or advance of expenses to a director for any liability stemming from acts or omissions occurring prior to the effective date of such provision; and (6) a provision limiting or eliminating any duty of a director or any other person to offer the corporation the right to have or participate in any, or one or more classes or categories of, business opportunities, before the pursuit or taking of the opportunity by the director or other person; provided that any application of such a provision to an officer or a related person of that officer (A) also requires approval of that application by the board of directors, subsequent to the effective date of the provision, by action of qualified directors taken in compliance with the same procedures as are set forth in section 33-783, and (B) may be limited by the authorizing action of the board. As used in this subsection "related person" has the same meaning as provided in section 33-781, as amended by this act.

- (c) The certificate of incorporation need not set forth any of the corporate powers enumerated in sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive.
- (d) Provisions of the certificate of incorporation may be made dependent upon facts objectively ascertainable outside the certificate of incorporation in accordance with subsection (l) of section 33-608.
- Sec. 13. Subdivision (5) of section 33-781 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

(5) "Related person" means: (A) The [director's] individual's spouse; [, or a parent or sibling thereof;] (B) a child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, [or] stepparent, grandparent, sibling, stepsibling, half-sibling, aunt, uncle, niece or nephew, or the spouse of any such person, of the [director, or the spouse of any thereof] individual or of the individual's spouse; (C) [an individual (i) living in the same home as the director, or (ii) a trust or estate of which a person specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of this subdivision or clause (i) of this subparagraph is a substantial beneficiary] a natural person living in the same home as the individual; (D) an entity, other than the corporation or an entity controlled by the corporation, controlled by the [director] <u>individual</u> or any person specified in subparagraphs (A) to (C), inclusive, of this subdivision; (E) a domestic or foreign (i) business or [nonprofit] nonstock corporation, other than the corporation or an entity controlled by the corporation, of which the [director] individual is a director, (ii) unincorporated entity of which the [director] individual is a general partner or a member of the governing body, or (iii) individual, trust or estate for whom or of which the [director] individual is a trustee, guardian, personal representative or like fiduciary; or (F) a person that is, or an entity that is controlled by, an employer of the [director] individual.

Sec. 14. Section 33-785 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

(a) [A director's taking] If a director or officer pursues or takes advantage [, directly or indirectly,] of a business opportunity directly, or indirectly through or on behalf of another person, that action may not be the subject of equitable relief, or give rise to an award of damages or other sanctions against the director, officer or other person, in a proceeding by or in the right of the corporation on the ground that such opportunity should have first been offered to the corporation, if (1) before [becoming] the director, officer or other person becomes legally obligated respecting the opportunity, the director or officer brings it to the attention of the corporation and either: [(1)] (A) Action by qualified directors disclaiming the

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corporation's interest in the opportunity is taken in compliance with the same procedures as are set forth in section 33-783; [as if the decision being made concerned a director's conflicting interest transaction;] or [(2)] (B) shareholders' action disclaiming the corporation's interest in the opportunity is taken in compliance with the procedures set forth in section 33-784, as amended by this act, in either case as if the decision being made concerned a director's conflicting interest transaction, [;] except that, rather than making required disclosure, as defined in section 33-781, as amended by this act, [in each case] the director or officer shall have made prior disclosure to those acting on behalf of the corporation of all material facts concerning the business opportunity [that are then] known to the director or officer; or (2) the duty to offer the corporation the business opportunity has been limited or eliminated pursuant to a provision of the certificate of incorporation adopted, and where required, made effective by action of qualified directors, in accordance with subdivision (6) of subsection (b) of section 33-636, as amended by this act.

- 615 (b) In any proceeding seeking equitable relief or other remedies 616 based upon an alleged improper pursuit or taking advantage of a 617 business opportunity by a director or officer directly, or indirectly 618 through or on behalf of another person, the fact that the director or 619 officer did not employ the procedure described in subparagraph (A) or 620 (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section before pursuing 621 or taking advantage of the opportunity shall not create an [inference] 622 <u>implication</u> that the opportunity should have been first presented to 623 the corporation or alter the burden of proof otherwise applicable to 624 establish that the director or officer breached a duty to the corporation 625 in the circumstances.
- Sec. 15. Section 33-817 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- In the case of a domestic corporation that is a party to a merger or the acquired corporation in a share exchange, the plan of merger or

630 share exchange shall be adopted in the following manner:

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- 631 (1) The plan of merger or share exchange [must] shall first be 632 adopted by the board of directors.
- 633 (2) Except as provided in [subdivision (7)] subdivisions (8), (10) and (12) of this section and section 33-818, [after adopting] the plan of 634 635 merger or share exchange [, the board of directors must submit the 636 plan to the shareholders for their approval. The board of directors 637 must also transmit to the shareholders a recommendation] shall then 638 be approved by the shareholders. In submitting the plan of merger or 639 share exchange to the shareholders for approval, the board of directors 640 shall recommend that the shareholders approve the plan, or, in the case of an offer referred to in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of 642 this section, that the shareholders tender their shares to the offeror in 643 response to the offer, unless (A) the board of directors makes a 644 determination that because of conflicts of interest or other special 645 circumstances it should not make such a recommendation, or (B) 646 section 33-754 applies. If either subparagraph (A) or (B) of this 647 subdivision applies, the board of directors [must transmit to] shall inform the shareholders of the basis for its so proceeding.
 - (3) The board of directors may [condition its submission] set conditions for the approval of the plan of merger or share exchange [to] by the shareholders [on any basis] or the effectiveness of the plan of merger or share exchange.
 - (4) If the plan of merger or share exchange is required to be approved by the shareholders, and if the approval is to be given at a meeting, the corporation shall notify each shareholder, regardless of whether [or not] entitled to vote, of the meeting of shareholders at which the plan is to be submitted for approval. The notice [shall also] must state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the plan and [shall] must contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the plan. If the corporation is to be merged into an existing foreign or domestic corporation, the notice [shall] must also

include or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the certificate of incorporation [of such existing] and bylaws of that corporation. If the corporation is to be merged [into a corporation that] with a domestic or foreign corporation and a new domestic or foreign corporation is to be created pursuant to the merger, the notice [shall] must include or be accompanied by a copy or a summary of the certificate of incorporation and bylaws of the new corporation.

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- (5) [Unless sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, the certificate of incorporation or the board of directors acting pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section requires a greater vote or a vote by voting groups, and except as provided in subdivision (9) of this section, the plan of merger or share exchange to be authorized must be approved by each voting group entitled to vote separately on the plan by a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast on the plan by that voting group.] Unless the certificate of incorporation, or the board of directors acting pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section, requires a greater vote or a greater quorum, approval of the plan of merger or share exchange requires the approval of the shareholders at a meeting at which a quorum exists consisting of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the plan, and, if any class or series of shares is entitled to vote as a separate group on the plan of merger or share exchange, the approval of each such separate voting group at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting group is present consisting of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast on the plan of merger or share exchange by that voting group.
- (6) [Separate] <u>Subject to subdivision (7) of this section, separate</u> voting by voting groups is required: (A) On a plan of merger, by each class or series of shares that: (i) [are] <u>Are</u> to be converted [, pursuant to the provisions of] <u>under</u> the plan of merger [,] into shares, [or] other securities, interests, obligations, rights to acquire shares or other securities <u>or interests</u>, cash, [or] other property, or any combination thereof; [,] or (ii) [would have a right] <u>are entitled</u> to vote as a separate group on a provision in the plan that, [if contained in] <u>constitutes</u> a proposed amendment to the certificate of incorporation [, would

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require] of a surviving corporation that requires action by separate voting groups under section 33-798; (B) on a plan of share exchange, by each class or series of shares included in the exchange, with each class or series constituting a separate voting group; and (C) on a plan of merger or share exchange, if the voting group is entitled under the certificate of incorporation to vote as a voting group to approve a plan of merger or share exchange, respectively.

(7) The certificate of incorporation may expressly limit or eliminate the separate voting rights provided in subparagraph (A)(i) of subdivision (6) of this section and in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (6) of this section as to any class or series of shares, except when the plan of merger or share exchange (A) includes what is or would be in effect an amendment subject to subparagraph (A)(ii) of subdivision (6) of this section, and (B) will not effect a substantive business combination.

[(7)] (8) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, approval by the corporation's shareholders of a plan of merger [or share exchange] is not required if: (A) The corporation will [be the survivor in the merger or is the acquiring corporation in the share exchange] survive the merger; (B) except for amendments permitted by section 33-796, its certificate of incorporation will not be changed; and (C) each shareholder of the corporation whose shares were outstanding immediately before the effective date of the merger [or the share exchange] will hold the same number of shares, with identical preferences, rights and limitations, [and relative rights,] immediately after the effective date of the merger. [or the share exchange.]

[(8)] (9) If, as a result of a merger or a share exchange, one or more shareholders of a domestic corporation would become subject to personal liability for the obligations or liabilities of any other person or entity, approval of the plan of merger or share exchange [shall require] requires the [execution] signing in connection with the transaction, by each such shareholder, of a separate written consent to become subject to such personal liability.

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(10) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, approval by the shareholders of a plan of merger or share exchange is not required if: (A) The plan of merger or share exchange expressly (i) permits or requires the merger or share exchange to be effected under this subdivision, and (ii) provides that, if the merger or share exchange is to be effected under this subdivision, the merger or share exchange will be effected as soon as practicable following the satisfaction of the requirement set forth in subparagraph (F) of this subdivision; (B) another party to the merger, the acquiring corporation in the share exchange, or a parent of another party to the merger or the acquiring corporation in the share exchange, makes an offer to purchase, on the terms provided in the plan of merger or share exchange, any and all of the outstanding shares of the corporation that, absent the provisions of this subdivision, would be entitled to vote on the plan of merger or share exchange, except that the offer may exclude shares of the corporation that are owned at the commencement of the offer by the corporation, the offeror or any parent of the offeror, or by any wholly owned subsidiary of the corporation, the offeror or by any wholly owned subsidiary of any of them; (C) the offer discloses that the plan of merger or share exchange provides that the merger or share exchange will be effected as soon as practicable following the satisfaction of the requirement set forth in subparagraph (F) of this subdivision and that the shares of the corporation that are not tendered in response to the offer will be treated as set forth in subparagraph (H) of this subdivision; (D) the offer remains open for at least ten days; (E) the offeror purchases all shares properly tendered in response to the offer and not properly withdrawn; (F) the shares set forth in this subparagraph are collectively entitled to cast at least the minimum number of votes on the merger or share exchange that, absent the provisions of this subdivision, would be required by sections 33-814 to 33-821a, inclusive, as amended by this act, and by the certificate of incorporation for the approval of the merger or share exchange by the shareholders and by any other voting group entitled to vote on the merger or share exchange at a meeting at which all shares entitled to vote on the approval were present and voted: (i)

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Shares purchased by the offeror in accordance with the offer; (ii) shares otherwise owned by the offeror or by any parent of the offeror or any wholly owned subsidiary of the offeror or by any parent of the offeror; and (iii) shares subject to an agreement that are to be transferred, contributed or delivered to the offeror, any parent of the offeror or any wholly owned subsidiary of any of them in exchange for shares in such offeror, parent or subsidiary; (G) the offeror or a wholly owned subsidiary of the offeror merges with or into, or effects a share exchange in which it acquires shares of the corporation; and (H) each outstanding share of each class or series of shares of the corporation that the offeror is offering to purchase in accordance with the offer, and that is not purchased in accordance with the offer, is to be converted in the merger into, or into the right to receive, or is to be exchanged in the share exchange for, or for the right to receive, the same amount and kind of securities, interests, obligations, rights, cash or other property to be paid or exchanged in accordance with the offer for each share of that class or series of shares that is tendered in response to the offer, except that shares of the corporation that are owned by the corporation or that are described in subparagraph (F)(ii) or (iii) of this subdivision need not be converted into or exchanged for the consideration described in this subparagraph.

(11) As used in subdivision (10) of this section, (A) "offer" means the offer referred to in subparagraph (B) of subdivision (10) of this section; (B) "offeror" means the person making the offer; (C) "parent" of a corporation means a person that owns, directly or indirectly, through one or more wholly owned subsidiaries, all of the outstanding shares of that corporation; (D) shares tendered in response to the offer shall be deemed to have been "purchased" in accordance with the offer at the earliest time as of which (i) the offeror has irrevocably accepted those shares for payment, and (ii) either (I) in the case of shares represented by certificates, the offeror, or the offeror's designated depository or other agent, has physically received the certificates representing those shares, or (II) in the case of shares without certificates, those shares have been transferred into the account of the

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offeror or its designated depository or other agent, or an agent's message relating to those shares has been received by the offeror or its designated depository or other agent; and (E) "wholly owned subsidiary" of a person means an entity of or in which that person owns, directly or indirectly, through one or more wholly owned subsidiaries, all of the outstanding shares or interests.

(12) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, (A) approval of a plan of share exchange by the shareholders of a domestic corporation is not required if the corporation is the acquiring corporation in the share exchange; and (B) shares not to be exchanged under the plan of share exchange are not entitled to vote on the plan.

[(9)] (13) Notwithstanding any provision of subdivision (5) of this section, [to the contrary,] a plan of merger or share exchange of a corporation which was incorporated under the laws of this state, whether under chapter 599 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 1995, or any other general law or special act, prior to January 1, 1997, to be authorized by such corporation, shall be approved by (A) the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the voting power of each voting group entitled to vote thereon unless (i) the certificate of incorporation expressly provides otherwise, [provided if such corporation is the surviving corporation of such merger and such plan of merger will not effect any change in or amendment to the certificate of incorporation of such corporation and the shares to be issued under the plan of merger could have been issued by the board of directors of such corporation without further authorization of the shareholders of such corporation, then the provisions of this subdivision shall not require approval of such plan of merger or share exchange by the corporation's shareholders or (ii) approval by the corporation's shareholders of the plan of merger or share exchange is not required under either subdivision (8) or (10) of this section, and (B) the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the voting power of each class of stock of such corporation outstanding prior to January 1, 1997, and not otherwise entitled to vote thereon, unless (i) the certificate of incorporation expressly provides otherwise; [provided if such

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832 corporation is the surviving corporation of such merger and such plan 833 of merger or share exchange does not contain any provisions which, if 834 contained in a proposed amendment to the certificate of incorporation 835 of such corporation, would entitle any class or series of shareholders of 836 such surviving corporation to vote as a class or series as provided in 837 subsection (f) of section 33-797 or section 33-798, then the provisions of 838 this subdivision shall not require approval of such plan of merger or 839 share exchange by the holders of such class or series not otherwise entitled to vote thereon] or (ii) approval by the corporation's 840 shareholders of the plan of merger or share exchange is not required 841 842 under either subdivision (8) or (10) of this section.

- Sec. 16. Section 33-856 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- (a) A shareholder is entitled to appraisal rights, and to obtain payment of the fair value of that shareholder's shares, in the event of any of the following corporate actions:

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- (1) Consummation of a merger to which the corporation is a party (A) if shareholder approval is required for the merger by section 33-817, [and the shareholder is entitled to vote on the merger] as amended by this act, or would be required but for the provisions of subdivision (10) of section 33-817, as amended by this act, except that appraisal rights shall not be available to any shareholder of the corporation with respect to shares of any class or series that remain outstanding after consummation of the merger, or (B) if the corporation is a subsidiary and the merger is governed by section 33-818;
- (2) Consummation of a share exchange to which the corporation is a party [as the corporation whose shares will be acquired, if the shareholder is entitled to vote on the exchange] the shares of which will be acquired, except that appraisal rights shall not be available to any shareholder of the corporation with respect to any class or series of shares of the corporation that is not [exchanged] acquired in the share exchange;

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(3) Consummation of a disposition of assets pursuant to section 33-831 if the shareholder is entitled to vote on the disposition, except that appraisal rights shall not be available to any shareholder of the corporation with respect to shares of any class or series if (A) under the terms of the corporate action approved by the shareholders there is to be distributed to shareholders in cash [its] the corporation's net assets, in excess of a reasonable amount reserved to meet claims of the type described in sections 33-886 and 33-887, (i) within one year after the shareholders' approval of the action, and (ii) in accordance with their respective interests determined at the time of such distribution, and (B) the disposition of assets is not an interested transaction;

- (4) An amendment of the certificate of incorporation with respect to a class or series of shares that reduces the number of shares of a class or series owned by the shareholder to a fraction of a share if the corporation has the obligation or right to repurchase the fractional share so created;
- (5) If the corporation is not a benefit corporation, as defined in section 33-1351, (A) an amendment of the certificate of incorporation to state that the corporation is a benefit corporation; (B) consummation of a merger to which the corporation is a party in which the surviving [entity] corporation will be a benefit corporation or in which shares in the corporation will be converted into a right to receive shares of a benefit corporation; or (C) consummation of a share exchange to which the corporation is a party and the shares of the corporation will be exchanged for shares of a benefit corporation; or
- (6) Any other merger, share exchange, disposition of assets or amendment to the certificate of incorporation; in each case to the extent provided by the certificate of incorporation, the bylaws or a resolution of the board of directors.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the availability of appraisal rights under subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (a) of this section shall be limited in accordance with the following

896 provisions:

- (1) Appraisal rights shall not be available for the holders of shares of any class or series of shares which is:
- 899 (A) A covered security under Section 18(b)(1)(A) or (B) of the 900 Securities Act of 1933, as amended;
 - (B) Traded in an organized market and has at least two thousand shareholders and a market value of at least twenty million dollars, exclusive of the value of such shares held by the corporation's subsidiaries, senior executives [,] and directors and by any beneficial shareholders and any voting trust beneficial owner owning more than ten per cent of such shares; or
- 907 (C) Issued by an open-end management investment company 908 registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the 909 Investment Company Act of 1940 and <u>which</u> may be redeemed at the 910 option of the holder at net asset value.
 - (2) The applicability of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be determined as of: (A) The record date fixed to determine the shareholders entitled to receive notice of the meeting of shareholders to act upon the corporate action requiring appraisal rights or, in the case of an offer made pursuant to subdivision (10) of section 33-817, as amended by this act, the date of such offer; or (B) [the day before the effective date of such corporate action if there is no meeting of shareholders] if there is no meeting of shareholders and no offer made pursuant to subdivision (10) of section 33-817, as amended by this act, the day before the consummation of the corporate action or effective date of the amendment of the certificate of incorporation, as applicable.
 - (3) Subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be applicable and appraisal rights shall be available pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for the holders of any class or series of shares (A) who are required by the terms of the corporate action requiring appraisal rights to accept for such shares anything other than cash or shares of any

class or any series of shares of any corporation, or any other proprietary interest of any other entity, that satisfies the standards set forth in subdivision (1) of this subsection at the time the corporate action becomes effective, or (B) in the case of the consummation of a disposition of assets pursuant to section 33-831, unless [such] the cash, shares or proprietary interests received in the disposition are, under the terms of the corporate action approved by the shareholders, to be distributed to the shareholders, as part of a distribution to shareholders of the net assets of the corporation in excess of a reasonable amount to meet claims of the type described in sections 33-886 and 33-887, (i) not later than one year after the shareholders' approval of the action, and (ii) in accordance with their respective interests determined at the time of the distribution.

- (4) Subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not be applicable and appraisal rights shall be available pursuant to subsection (a) of this section for the holders of any class or series of shares where the corporate action is an interested transaction.
- (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the certificate of incorporation as originally filed or any amendment [thereto] to the certificate of incorporation may limit or eliminate appraisal rights for any class or series of preferred shares, [but] except that (1) no such limitation or elimination shall be effective if the class or series does not have the right to vote separately as a voting group, alone or as part of a group, on the action, and (2) any such limitation or elimination contained in an amendment to the certificate of incorporation that limits or eliminates appraisal rights for any of such shares that are outstanding immediately [prior to] before the effective date of such amendment or that the corporation is or may be required to issue or sell thereafter pursuant to any conversion, exchange or other right existing immediately before the effective date of such amendment shall not apply to any corporate action that becomes effective within one year of [that date] the effective date of such amendment if such action would otherwise afford appraisal rights.

(d) Where the right to be paid the value of shares is made available to a shareholder by this section, such remedy shall be the exclusive remedy as holder of such shares against the corporate actions described in this section, whether or not the shareholder proceeds as provided in sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act.

- Sec. 17. Section 33-860 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 968 (a) Where any corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 969 33-856, as amended by this act, is to be submitted to a vote at a 970 shareholders' meeting, the meeting notice, or where no approval of 971 such action is required pursuant to subdivision (10) of section 33-817, 972 as amended by this act, the offer made pursuant to subdivision (10) of 973 section 33-817, as amended by this act, must state that the corporation 974 has concluded that the [shareholders] appraisal rights are, are not or 975 may be [entitled to assert appraisal rights] available under sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act. If the corporation 976 977 concludes that appraisal rights are or may be available, a copy of 978 sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act, must 979 accompany the meeting notice or offer sent to those record 980 shareholders entitled to exercise appraisal rights.
 - (b) In a merger pursuant to section 33-818, the parent corporation [must] shall notify in writing all record shareholders of the subsidiary who are entitled to assert appraisal rights that the corporate action became effective. Such notice [must] shall be sent within ten days after the corporate action became effective and include the materials described in section 33-862, as amended by this act.

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- (c) Where any corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, as amended by this act, is to be approved by written consent of the shareholders pursuant to section 33-698:
- 990 (1) Written notice that appraisal rights are, are not or may be available [must] shall be sent to each record shareholder from whom a

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consent is solicited at the time consent of such shareholder is first solicited and, if the corporation has concluded that appraisal rights are or may be available, the notice must be accompanied by a copy of sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act; and

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- (2) Written notice that appraisal rights are, are not or may be available must be delivered together with the notice to <u>nonconsenting</u> and nonvoting [and nonconsenting] shareholders required by subsections (e) and (f) of section 33-698, may include the materials described in section 33-862, as amended by this act, and, if the corporation has concluded that appraisal rights are or may be available, must be accompanied by a copy of sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- (d) Where [any] corporate action [specified] <u>described</u> in subsection (a) of section 33-856, <u>as amended by this act</u>, is proposed, or a merger pursuant to section 33-818 is effected, the notice referred to in subsection (a) or (c) of this section, if the corporation concludes that appraisal rights are or may be available, and in subsection (b) of this section, shall be accompanied by:
 - (1) [The annual financial statements specified in subsection (a) of section 33-951] Financial statements of the corporation that issued the shares that may be subject to appraisal, [which shall be as of a date] consisting of a balance sheet as of the end of the fiscal year ending not more than sixteen months before the date of the notice, [and shall comply with subsection (b) of section 33-951, except that,] an income statement for that fiscal year and a cash flow statement for that fiscal year, provided if such [annual] financial statements are not reasonably available, the corporation shall provide reasonably equivalent financial information; and
- 1020 (2) The latest [available quarterly] <u>interim</u> financial statements of such corporation, if any.
- 1022 (e) The right to receive the information described in subsection (d) 1023 of this section may be waived in writing by a shareholder before or

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1024 after the corporate action.

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- 1025 Sec. 18. Section 33-861 of the general statutes is repealed and the 1026 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 1027 (a) If a corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, 1028 as amended by this act, is submitted to a vote at a shareholders' 1029 meeting, a shareholder who wishes to assert appraisal rights with 1030 respect to any class or series of shares: (1) [Must] Shall deliver to the corporation, before the vote is taken, written notice of the 1031 1032 shareholder's intent to demand payment if the proposed action is 1033 effectuated, and (2) [must] shall not vote, or cause or permit to be 1034 voted, any shares of such class or series in favor of the proposed 1035 action.
- 1036 (b) If a corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, 1037 as amended by this act, is to be approved by [less than unanimous] 1038 written consent, a shareholder who wishes to assert appraisal rights 1039 with respect to any class or series of shares [must] shall not sign a 1040 consent in favor of the proposed action with respect to that class or 1041 series of shares.
- 1042 (c) If a corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, 1043 as amended by this act, does not require shareholder approval 1044 pursuant to subdivision (10) of section 33-817, as amended by this act, 1045 a shareholder who wishes to assert appraisal rights with respect to any 1046 class or series of shares (1) shall deliver to the corporation before the 1047 shares are purchased pursuant to the offer written notice of the 1048 shareholder's intent to demand payment if the proposed action is 1049 effected; and (2) shall not tender, or cause to permit to be tendered, any 1050 shares of such class or series in response to such offer.
- [(c)] (d) A shareholder who fails to satisfy the requirements of 1052 subsection (a), [or] (b) or (c) of this section is not entitled to payment under sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act.
- 1054 Sec. 19. Section 33-862 of the general statutes is repealed and the

following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

(a) If [proposed] <u>a</u> corporate action requiring appraisal rights under subsection (a) of section 33-856, <u>as amended by this act</u>, becomes effective, the corporation [must send] <u>shall deliver</u> a written appraisal notice and the form required by [subdivision (1) of] subsection (b) of this section to all shareholders who [satisfied] <u>satisfy</u> the requirements of <u>subsection (a)</u>, (b) or (c) of section 33-861, <u>as amended by this act</u>. In the case of a merger under section 33-818, the parent [must] <u>shall</u> deliver an appraisal notice and form to all record shareholders who may be entitled to assert appraisal rights.

- (b) The appraisal notice [must] <u>shall</u> be delivered no earlier than the date the corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, <u>as amended by this act</u>, became effective and no later than ten days after such date, and [shall] must:
- (1) Supply a form that (A) specifies the first date of any announcement to shareholders made [prior to] <u>before</u> the date the corporate action became effective of the principal terms of the proposed corporate action, (B) if such announcement was made, requires the shareholder asserting appraisal rights to certify whether beneficial ownership of those shares for which appraisal rights are asserted was acquired before that date, and (C) requires the shareholder asserting appraisal rights to certify that such shareholder did not vote for or consent to the transaction <u>as to the class or series of shares for which appraisal is sought</u>;

1079 (2) State:

- (A) Where the form [must] <u>shall</u> be sent and where certificates for certificated shares [must] <u>shall</u> be deposited and the date by which those certificates must be deposited, which date may not be earlier than the date [for receiving] <u>by which the corporation must receive</u> the required form under subparagraph (B) of this subdivision;
- 1085 (B) A date by which the corporation must receive the form which

date may not be fewer than forty nor more than sixty days after the date the appraisal notice under subsection (a) of this section is sent, and state that the shareholder shall have waived the right to demand appraisal with respect to the shares unless the form is received by the corporation by such specified date;

(C) The corporation's estimate of the fair value of the shares;

- (D) That, if requested in writing, the corporation will provide, to the shareholder so requesting, within ten days after the date specified in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision, the number of shareholders who return the forms by the specified date and the total number of shares owned by them; and
- 1097 (E) The date by which the notice to withdraw under section 33-863 1098 must be received, which date must be within twenty days after the 1099 date specified in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision; and
- 1100 (3) Be accompanied by a copy of sections 33-855 to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act.
 - Sec. 20. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2017*) (a) The certificate of incorporation or the bylaws of a corporation may require that any or all internal corporate claims be brought exclusively in any specified court or courts of this state and, if so specified, in any additional courts in this state or in any other jurisdictions with which the corporation has a reasonable relationship.
 - (b) A provision of the certificate of incorporation or the bylaws adopted under subsection (a) of this section shall not have the effect of conferring jurisdiction on any court or over any person or claim, and shall not apply if none of the courts specified by such provision have the requisite personal and subject matter jurisdiction. If the court or courts of this state specified in a provision adopted under subsection (a) of this section do not have the requisite personal and subject matter jurisdiction and another court of this state does have such jurisdiction, then the internal corporate claim may be brought in such other court of

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this state, notwithstanding that such other court of this state is not specified in such provision, and in any other court specified in such

- 1119 provision that has the requisite jurisdiction.
- 1120 (c) No provision of the certificate of incorporation or the bylaws
- may prohibit bringing an internal corporate claim in the courts of this
- state or require such claims to be determined by arbitration.
- (d) As used in this section, "internal corporate claim" means, (1) any
- claim that is based upon a violation of a duty under the laws of this
- state by a current or former director, officer or shareholder in such
- capacity, (2) any derivative action or proceeding brought on behalf of
- 1127 the corporation, (3) any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to
- any provision of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, of the general
- statutes, or the certificate of incorporation or bylaws, or (4) any action
- asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine that is not
- included in subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive, of this subsection.
- Sec. 21. Section 33-602 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- As used in sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive:
- 1135 (1) "Address" means location as described by the full street number,
- if any, street, city or town, state or country and not a mailing address
- such as a post office box.
- 1138 (2) "Authorized shares" means the shares of all classes a domestic or
- 1139 foreign corporation is authorized to issue.
- 1140 (3) "Beneficial shareholder" means a person who owns the beneficial
- interest in shares, which may be a record shareholder or a person on
- whose behalf shares are registered in the name of an intermediary or
- 1143 <u>nominee</u>.
- 1144 [(3)] (4) "Certificate of incorporation" means the original certificate
- of incorporation or restated certificate of incorporation, and all
- amendments thereto, and all certificates of merger or consolidation. In

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1147 the case of a specially chartered corporation, "certificate of 1148 incorporation" means the special charter of the corporation, including 1149 any portions of the charters of its predecessor companies which have 1150 continuing effect, and any amendments to the charter made by special 1151 act or pursuant to general law. In the case of a corporation formed 1152 before January 1, 1961, or of a specially chartered corporation, 1153 "certificate of incorporation" includes those portions of any other 1154 corporate instruments or resolutions of current application in which 1155 are set out provisions of the sort which either (A) are required by 1156 sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, to be embodied in the certificate of 1157 incorporation, or (B) are expressly permitted by sections 33-600 to 33-1158 998, inclusive, to be operative only if included in the certificate of 1159 incorporation. It also includes what were, prior to January 1, 1961, 1160 designated at law as agreements of association, articles of 1161 incorporation, charters and other such terms.

1162 [(4)] (5) "Conspicuous" means so written, displayed or presented 1163 that a reasonable person against whom the writing is to operate should have noticed it. For example, text in italics, boldface, contrasting color, capitals or underlined is conspicuous.

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- 1166 [(5)] (6) "Corporation" or "domestic corporation" means a stock 1167 corporation, [with capital stock,] which is not a foreign corporation, 1168 incorporated under the laws of this state, whether general law or 1169 special act and whether before or after January 1, 1997.
- 1170 [(6)] (7) "Deliver" or "delivery" means any method of delivery used 1171 in conventional commercial practice including delivery by hand, mail, 1172 commercial delivery and, if authorized in accordance with section 33-1173 603, electronic transmission.
- 1174 [(7)] (8) "Distribution" means a direct or indirect transfer of money 1175 or other property, except its own shares, or incurrence of indebtedness 1176 by a corporation to or for the benefit of its shareholders in respect of 1177 any of its shares. A distribution may be in the form of a declaration or 1178 payment of a dividend; a purchase, redemption or other acquisition of

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- shares; a distribution of indebtedness; or otherwise.
- [(8)] (9) "Document" means (A) any tangible medium on which
- 1181 information is inscribed, and includes any writing or written
- instrument, or (B) an electronic record.
- 1183 (10) "Domestic", with respect to an entity, means an entity governed
- as to its internal affairs by the law of this state.
- [(9)] (11) "Effective date of notice" is defined in section 33-603.
- [(10)] (12) (A) "Electronic" means relating to technology having
- 1187 electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic or
- 1188 similar capabilities.
- 1189 (B) "Electronic record" means information that is stored in an
- electronic or other medium and is retrievable in paper form through an
- 1191 automated process used in conventional commercial practice, unless
- otherwise authorized in accordance with subsection (j) of section 33-
- 1193 603.
- 1194 (C) "Electronic transmission" or "electronically transmitted" means
- any form or process of communication not directly involving the
- 1196 physical transfer of paper or another tangible medium, which (i) is
- suitable for the retention, retrieval and reproduction of information by
- the recipient, and (ii) is retrievable in paper form by the recipient
- 1199 through an automated process used in conventional commercial
- 1200 practice, unless otherwise authorized in accordance with subsection (j)
- 1201 of section 33-603.
- 1202 [(11)] (13) "Employee" includes an officer but not a director. A
- director may accept duties that make him also an employee.
- 1204 [(12)] (14) "Entity" includes a corporation and foreign corporation;
- 1205 nonprofit corporation; profit and nonprofit unincorporated
- 1206 association; business trust, estate, partnership, limited liability
- 1207 company, trust and two or more persons having a joint or common
- economic interest; and state, United States or foreign government.

1209 [(13)] (15) "Expenses" means reasonable expenses of any kind that

- are incurred in connection with a matter including, but not limited to,
- 1211 reasonable counsel fees.
- 1212 [(14)] (16) "Facts objectively ascertainable" outside of a plan or filed
- document is defined in subsection (l) of section 33-608.
- 1214 (17) "Foreign", with respect to an entity, means an entity governed
- as to its internal affairs by the laws of a jurisdiction other than this
- 1216 state.
- 1217 [(15)] (18) "Foreign corporation" means a corporation incorporated
- 1218 under a law other than the law of this state.
- [(16)] (19) "Governmental subdivision" includes authority, county,
- 1220 district and municipality.
- 1221 [(17)] (20) "Includes" denotes a partial definition.
- 1222 [(18)] (21) "Individual" includes the estate of an incompetent or
- 1223 deceased individual.
- [(19)] (22) "Means" denotes an exhaustive definition.
- 1225 (23) "Merger" means a transaction pursuant to section 33-815.
- 1226 [(20)] (24) "Notice" is defined in section 33-603.
- 1227 [(21)] (25) "Person" includes individual and entity.
- 1228 [(22)] (26) "Principal office" of a domestic corporation means the
- 1229 address of the principal office of such corporation in this state, if any,
- 1230 as the same appears in the last annual report, if any, filed by such
- 1231 corporation with the Secretary of the State. If no principal office so
- 1232 appears, the corporation's "principal office" means the address in this
- state of the corporation's registered agent for service as last shown on
- the records of the Secretary of the State. In the case of a domestic
- 1235 corporation which has not filed such an annual report or appointment

1236 of registered agent for service, the "principal office" means the address

- of the principal place of business of such corporation in this state, if
- any, and if such corporation has no place of business in this state, its
- 1239 "principal office" shall be the office of the Secretary of the State.
- 1240 [(23)] (27) "Proceeding" includes civil suit and criminal,
- 1241 administrative and investigatory action.
- [(24)] (28) "Public corporation" means a corporation that has shares
- listed on a national securities exchange or regularly traded in a market
- 1244 maintained by one or more members of a national or affiliated
- 1245 securities association.
- 1246 [(25)] (29) "Qualified director" is defined in section 33-605, as
- 1247 <u>amended by this act</u>.
- [(26)] (30) "Record date" means the date established under sections
- 1249 33-665 to 33-687, inclusive, or sections 33-695 to 33-727, inclusive, on
- 1250 which a corporation determines the identity of its shareholders and
- their shareholdings for purposes of sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive.
- 1252 The determinations shall be made as of the close of business on the
- 1253 record date unless another time for doing so is specified when the
- 1254 record date is fixed.
- 1255 [(27)] (31) "Secretary" means the corporate officer to whom under
- the bylaws or by the board of directors is delegated responsibility
- 1257 under subsection (c) of section 33-763 for custody of the minutes of the
- meetings of the board of directors and of the shareholders and for
- 1259 authenticating records of the corporation.
- [(28)] (32) "Secretary of the State" means the Secretary of the State of
- 1261 Connecticut.
- 1262 (33) "Share exchange" means a transaction pursuant to section 33-
- 1263 816.
- 1264 [(29) "Shares" means the units into which the proprietary interests in

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1265 a corporation are divided.]

[(30)] (34) "Shareholder" means the person in whose name shares are registered in the records of a corporation or the beneficial owner of shares to the extent of the rights granted by a nominee certificate on file with a corporation.

- 1270 (35) "Shares" means the units into which the proprietary interests in a corporation are divided.
- [(31)] (36) "Sign" or "signature" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a document: (A) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol to a document, and includes any manual, facsimile or conformed signature; or (B) to attach to or logically associate with an electronic transmission an electronic sound, symbol or process, and includes an electronic signature in an electronic transmission.
- [(32)] (37) "State", when referring to a part of the United States, includes a state and commonwealth, and their agencies and governmental subdivisions, and a territory and insular possession, and their agencies and governmental subdivisions, of the United States.
- [(33)] (38) "Subscriber" means a person who subscribes for shares in a corporation, whether before or after incorporation.
- [(34)] (39) "United States" includes any district, authority, bureau, commission, department and other agency of the United States.
- 1286 (40) "Unrestricted voting trust beneficial owner" means, with respect
 1287 to any shareholder rights, a voting trust beneficial owner whose
 1288 entitlement to exercise the shareholder right in question is not
 1289 inconsistent with the voting trust agreement.
- [(35)] (41) "Voting group" means all shares of one or more classes or series that under the certificate of incorporation or sections 33-600 to 33-998, inclusive, are entitled to vote and be counted together collectively on a matter at a meeting of shareholders. All shares entitled by the certificate of incorporation or said sections to vote generally on the matter are for that purpose a single voting group.

[(36)] (42) "Voting power" means the current power to vote in the election of directors.

- 1298 (43) "Voting trust beneficial owner" means an owner of a beneficial 1299 interest in shares of the corporation held in a voting trust established
- 1300 pursuant to subsection (a) of section 33-715.
- 1301 [(37)] (44) "Writing" or "written" means any information in the form 1302 of a document.
- Sec. 22. Section 33-814 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 1305 As used in this section and sections 33-815 to 33-821a, inclusive:
- 1306 (1) "Acquired corporation" means the domestic or foreign 1307 corporation that will have all of one or more classes or series of its
- 1308 shares acquired in a share exchange.
- 1309 (2) "Acquiring corporation" means the domestic or foreign
- 1310 corporation that will acquire all of one or more classes or series of
- shares of the acquired corporation in a share exchange.
- [(1)] (3) "Interests" means the proprietary interests in an other entity.
- 1313 [(2) "Merger" means a business combination pursuant to section 33-
- 1314 815.]
- 1315 [(3)] (4) "Organizational documents" means the basic document or
- documents that create, or determine the internal governance of, an
- other entity.
- [(4)] (5) "Other entity" means any association or legal entity, other
- than a domestic or foreign corporation, organized to conduct business,
- 1320 including, but not limited to, a partnership, limited partnership,
- limited liability partnership, limited liability company, joint venture,
- 1322 joint stock company, business trust, statutory trust and real estate
- investment trust.

[(5)] (6) "Party to a merger" means any domestic or foreign corporation or other entity that will merge under a plan of merger.

- [(6)] (7) "Party to a share exchange" means any domestic or foreign
- 1327 corporation or other entity that will: (A) Acquire shares or interests of
- another corporation or an other entity in a share exchange; or (B) have
- all of its shares or interests or all of one or more classes or series of its
- shares or interests acquired in a share exchange.
- 1331 [(7) "Share exchange" means a business combination pursuant to
- 1332 section 33-816.]
- 1333 (8) "Survivor" means, in a merger, the corporation or other entity
- into which one or more other corporations or other entities are merged.
- 1335 A survivor of a merger may preexist the merger or be created by the
- 1336 merger.
- 1337 Sec. 23. Section 33-855 of the general statutes is repealed and the
- following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 1339 As used in this section and sections [33-855] 33-856 to 33-872,
- inclusive, as amended by this act:
- 1341 (1) "Affiliate" means a person that directly or indirectly through one
- or more intermediaries controls, is controlled by or is under common
- 1343 control with another person or is a senior executive thereof. For
- 1344 purposes of subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 33-856, as
- amended by this act, a person is deemed to be an affiliate of its senior
- 1346 executives.
- [(2) "Beneficial shareholder" means a person who is the beneficial
- owner of shares held in a voting trust or by a nominee on the beneficial
- owner's behalf.
- [(3)] (2) "Corporation" means the issuer of the shares held by a
- shareholder demanding appraisal and, for purposes of sections 33-862
- to 33-872, inclusive, as amended by this act, includes the surviving

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1353 entity in a merger.

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[(4)] (3) "Fair value" means the value of the corporation's shares determined: (A) Immediately before the effectuation of the corporate action to which the shareholder objects, (B) using customary and current valuation concepts and techniques generally employed for similar businesses in the context of the transaction requiring appraisal, and (C) without discounting for lack of marketability or minority status except, if appropriate, for amendments to the certificate of incorporation pursuant to subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 33-856, as amended by this act.

[(5)] (4) "Interest" means interest from the effective date of the corporate action until the date of payment, at the rate of interest on judgments in this state on the effective date of the corporate action.

[(6)] (5) "Interested transaction" means a corporate action specified in subsection (a) of section 33-856, as amended by this act, other than a merger pursuant to section 33-818, involving an interested person in which any of the shares or assets of the corporation are being acquired or converted. As used in this definition: (A) "Interested person" means a person, or an affiliate of a person, who at any time during the oneyear period immediately preceding approval by the board of directors of the corporate action: (i) Was the beneficial owner of twenty per cent or more of the voting power of the corporation, excluding any shares acquired pursuant to an offer for all shares having voting power if the offer was made within one year prior to the corporate action for consideration of the same kind and of a value equal to or less than that paid in connection with the corporate action; (ii) had the power, contractually or otherwise, to cause the appointment or election of twenty-five per cent or more of the directors to the board of directors of the corporation; or (iii) was a senior executive or director of the corporation or a senior executive of any affiliate thereof, and that senior executive or director will receive, as a result of the corporate action, a financial benefit not generally available to other shareholders as such, other than: (I) Employment, consulting, retirement or similar benefits established separately and not as part of or in contemplation of the corporate action; or (II) employment, consulting, retirement or

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similar benefits established in contemplation of, or as part of, the corporate action that are not more favorable than those existing before the corporate action or, if more favorable, that have been approved on behalf of the corporation in the same manner as is provided in section 33-783; or (III) in the case of a director of the corporation who will, in the corporate action, become a director of the acquiring entity in the corporate action or one of its affiliates, rights and benefits as a director that are provided on the same basis as those afforded by the acquiring entity generally to other directors of such entity or such affiliate; and (B) "beneficial owner" means any person who, directly or indirectly, through any contract, arrangement or understanding, other than a revocable proxy, has or shares the power to vote, or to direct the voting of, shares; except that a member of a national securities exchange is not deemed to be a beneficial owner of securities held directly or indirectly by it on behalf of another person solely because the member is the record holder of the securities if the member is precluded by the rules of the exchange from voting without instruction on contested matters or matters that may affect substantially the rights or privileges of the holders of the securities to be voted. When two or more persons agree to act together for the purpose of voting their shares of the corporation, each member of the group formed thereby is deemed to have acquired beneficial ownership, as of the date of the agreement, of all voting shares of the corporation beneficially owned by any member of the group.

- [(7)] (6) "Preferred shares" means a class or series of shares whose holders have preference over any other class or series with respect to distributions.
- [(8)] (7) "Record shareholder" means the person in whose name shares are registered in the records of the corporation or the beneficial owner of shares to the extent of the rights granted by a nominee certificate on file with the corporation.
- [(9)] (8) "Senior executive" means the chief executive officer, chief operating officer, chief financial officer and any individual in charge of

- 1421 a principal business unit or function.
- [(10)] (9) "Shareholder" means both a record shareholder and a
- 1423 beneficial shareholder.
- Sec. 24. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 33-1358 of the
- 1425 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 1426 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):
- 1427 (2) May consider (A) in the circumstances described in subsection
- [(d)] (g) of section 33-756, as amended by this act, the interests referred
- to in said subsection, and (B) other pertinent factors or the interests of
- 1430 any other group that the board of directors, any committee of the
- board and the directors of the benefit corporation deem appropriate;
- 1432 and
- Sec. 25. Subdivision (12) of section 34-243a of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 1435 1, 2017):
- 1436 (12) "Limited liability company", except in the phrase "foreign
- limited liability company" and when used in sections 34-279 to 34-279i,
- 1438 inclusive, as amended by this act, means an entity formed under
- sections 34-243 to 34-283d, inclusive, or which becomes subject to said
- sections under the Connecticut Entity Transactions Act, or section 34-
- 1441 243i or 34-279h.
- Sec. 26. Subsection (g) of section 34-243h of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 1444 1, 2017):
- 1445 (g) No limited liability company may be formed under the
- provisions of sections 34-243 to 34-283d, inclusive, for the purpose of
- 1447 transacting the business of an insurance company or a surety or
- 1448 indemnity company, unless (1) it is an affiliate of an insurance
- 1449 company chartered by, incorporated, organized or constituted within
- or under the laws of this state; and (2) at the time of the filing of its

1451 certificate of [formation] organization, there is also filed a certificate

- 1452 issued by the Insurance Commissioner, pursuant to section 33-646,
- authorizing the formation of the limited liability company. No limited
- liability company formed under the provisions of sections 34-243 to 34-
- 1455 283d, inclusive, shall have power to transact in this state the business
- of any insurance company or a surety or indemnity company until it
- has procured a license from the Insurance Commissioner in accordance
- 1458 with the provisions of section 38a-41.
- Sec. 27. Section 34-243p of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1460 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- 1461 (a) A registered agent may resign as an agent for a limited liability
- 1462 company or registered foreign limited liability company by delivering
- 1463 to the Secretary of the State for filing a certificate of resignation that
- states: (1) The name of the limited liability company or registered
- 1465 foreign limited liability company; (2) the name of the agent; (3) that the
- agent resigns from serving as registered agent for the limited liability
- 1467 company or registered foreign limited liability company; and (4) the
- 1468 address of the limited liability company or registered foreign limited
- 1469 liability company to which the agent will send the notice required by
- subsection (c) of this section.
- 1471 (b) A certificate of resignation takes effect on the earlier of: (1) The
- thirty-first day after the day on which it is filed by the Secretary of the
- 1473 State; or (2) the date a new registered agent is designated for the
- 1474 limited liability company or registered foreign limited liability
- 1475 company.
- 1476 (c) A registered agent shall immediately furnish to the limited
- liability company or registered foreign limited liability company notice
- in a record of the date on which the certificate of resignation was filed.
- 1479 (d) When a certificate of resignation takes effect, the registered agent
- 1480 ceases to have responsibility under sections 34-243 to 34-283d,
- inclusive, for any matter thereafter tendered to it as agent for the
- 1482 limited liability company or registered foreign limited liability

1483 company. The resignation does not affect any contractual rights the 1484 limited liability company or registered foreign limited liability 1485 company has against the agent or that the agent has against the limited 1486 liability company or registered foreign limited liability company.

1487 (e) A registered agent may resign with respect to a limited liability company or registered foreign limited liability company whether or 1489 not the limited liability company or registered foreign limited liability company is in good standing.]

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- 1491 Sec. 28. Section 34-243u of the general statutes is repealed and the 1492 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- 1493 The Secretary of the State shall charge and collect the following fees 1494 and remit them to the Treasurer for the use of the state:
 - (a) Fees for filing documents and issuing certificates: (1) Filing an application to reserve a limited liability company name or to cancel a reserved limited liability company name, sixty dollars; (2) filing a transfer of reserved limited liability company name, sixty dollars; (3) filing a certificate of organization, including appointment of registered agent, one hundred twenty dollars; (4) filing a change of address of agent certificate or change of agent certificate, fifty dollars; (5) filing a notice of resignation of registered agent, fifty dollars; (6) filing an amendment to certificate of organization, one hundred twenty dollars; (7) filing a restated certificate of organization, one hundred twenty dollars; (8) filing a certificate of merger, sixty dollars; (9) filing a certificate of interest exchange, sixty dollars; (10) filing a certificate of abandonment, fifty dollars; (11) filing a certificate of reinstatement, one hundred twenty dollars; (12) filing a foreign registration [statement] certificate by a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state, one hundred twenty dollars; (13) filing an application of foreign limited liability company for amended foreign registration [statement] certificate, one hundred twenty dollars; (14) filing a [statement] <u>certificate</u> of withdrawal of [foreign limited liability company] registration under section 34-275h, as amended by this act,

one hundred twenty dollars; (15) filing an annual report, twenty dollars; (16) filing an interim notice of change of manager or member, twenty dollars; (17) filing a registration of name or a [removal] renewal of registration of name, sixty dollars; (18) filing a statement of correction, one hundred dollars; and (19) filing a transfer of registration, sixty dollars plus the qualification fee.

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- (b) Miscellaneous charges: (1) At the time of any service of process on the Secretary of the State as registered agent of a limited liability company, which amount may be recovered as taxable costs by the party to the suit or action causing such service to be made if such party prevails in the suit or action, the plaintiff in the process so served shall pay fifty dollars; (2) for preparing and furnishing a copy of any document, instrument or paper filed or recorded relating to a limited liability company: For each copy of each such document thereof regardless of the number of pages, forty dollars; for affixing his certification thereto, fifteen dollars; (3) for the issuance of a [certification] certificate of legal existence of a domestic or registered foreign limited liability company, fifty dollars; (4) for the issuance of a certificate of legal existence of a domestic or registered foreign limited liability company which certificate may reflect any and all changes of limited liability company names and the dates of filing thereof, fifty dollars; (5) for the issuance of a certificate of legal existence of a domestic limited liability company reflecting [articles] certificates effecting fundamental changes to certificate of organization and the date or dates of filing thereof, one hundred dollars; and (6) for other services for which fees are not provided by the general statutes, the Secretary of the State may charge such fees as will, in the judgment of the Secretary of the State, cover the cost of the services provided.
- 1543 (c) The tax imposed under chapter 219 shall not be imposed upon 1544 any transaction for which a fee is charged under the provisions of this 1545 section.
- Sec. 29. Subsection (c) of section 34-247 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*

- 1548 1, 2017):
- (c) A certificate of organization may contain statements as to matters
- other than those required by subsection (b) of this section, but may not
- 1551 vary or otherwise affect the provisions specified in subsection (c) of
- section 34-243d in a manner inconsistent with said section. [However,
- 1553 a statement in a certificate of organization is not effective as a
- statement of authority.]
- 1555 Sec. 30. Subsection (a) of section 34-247d of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 1557 1, 2017):
- (a) If a record delivered to the Secretary of the State for filing under
- sections 34-243 to 34-283d, inclusive, and filed by the Secretary of the
- 1560 State contains inaccurate information, a person that suffers loss by
- reliance on the information may recover damages for the loss from: (1)
- 1562 A person that signed the record or caused another to sign it on the
- person's behalf, and knew the information to be inaccurate at the time
- the record was signed; and (2) subject to subsection (b) of this section, a
- 1565 member of a member-managed limited liability company or the
- 1566 manager of a manager-managed limited liability company, if: (A) The
- record was delivered for filing on behalf of the company; and (B) the
- 1568 member or manager had notice of the inaccuracy for a reasonably
- 1569 sufficient time before the information was relied upon so that, before
- the reliance, the member or manager reasonably could have:
- 1571 (i) Effected an amendment under section 34-247a;
- 1572 (ii) Filed a petition under section 34-247c; or
- (iii) Delivered to the Secretary of the State for filing a [statement of]
- 1574 change of address of agent certificate or a change of agent certificate
- under section 34-2430 or a statement of correction under section 34-
- 1576 247h.
- 1577 Sec. 31. Section 34-247f of the general statutes is repealed and the

- 1578 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- Except as provided in section 34-247g, as amended by this act, and
- 1580 subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of section 34-247h, a
- 1581 certificate of organization is effective and a foreign registration
- 1582 [statement] certificate is effective on the date and at the time of its
- filing by the Secretary of the State, as provided in section 34-247e. Each
- 1584 other record filed under sections 34-243 to 34-283d, inclusive, is
- 1585 effective on the later of:
- 1586 (1) On the date and at the time of its filing by the Secretary of the
- 1587 State, as provided in section 34-247e;
- 1588 (2) On the date of filing and at the time specified in the record as its
- 1589 effective time, if later than the time under subdivision (1) of this
- 1590 section;
- 1591 (3) At a specified delayed effective date and time, which may not be
- more than ninety days after the date of filing; or
- 1593 (4) If a delayed effective date is specified, but no time is specified, at
- 1594 12:01 a.m. on the date specified, which may not be more than ninety
- 1595 days after the date of filing.
- 1596 Sec. 32. Section 34-247g of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1597 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- (a) A record delivered to the Secretary of the State for filing may be
- 1599 withdrawn before it takes effect by delivering to the Secretary of the
- 1600 State for filing a [statement] <u>certificate</u> of withdrawal.
- (b) A [statement] certificate of withdrawal must: (1) Identify the
- record to be withdrawn; and (2) if signed by fewer than all the persons
- 1603 that signed the record being withdrawn, state that the record is
- 1604 withdrawn in accordance with the agreement of all the persons that
- signed the record or as otherwise provided in the operating agreement
- 1606 of the limited liability company.

1607 (c) On filing by the Secretary of the State of a [statement] <u>certificate</u> 1608 of withdrawal, the action or transaction evidenced by the original 1609 record shall not take effect.

- Sec. 33. Section 34-247j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- [(a)] On request of any person, the Secretary of the State shall issue a certificate of [good standing] <u>legal existence</u> for a <u>domestic or registered foreign</u> limited liability company. [or a certificate of registration for a registered foreign limited liability company] <u>A</u> certificate issued by the Secretary of the State under this section may be relied upon as conclusive evidence of the facts set forth in the certificate.
- 1619 [(b) A certificate issued under subsection (a) of this section must 1620 state:
- 1621 (1) The limited liability company's name or the registered foreign limited liability company's name used in this state;
- 1623 (2) In the case of a limited liability company, that: (A) No statement 1624 of dissolution, statement of administrative dissolution or statement of 1625 termination has been filed; (B) the records of the Secretary of the State 1626 do not otherwise reflect that the company has been dissolved or 1627 terminated; (C) the limited liability company has filed all annual 1628 reports due through the date of the certificate in compliance with 1629 section 34-247k; and (D) a proceeding is not pending under section 34-1630 267g; and
- (3) In the case of a registered foreign limited liability company, that:
 (A) It is registered to do business in this state; and (B) the registered foreign limited liability company has filed all annual reports due through the date of the certificate in compliance with section 34-247k.
- 1635 (c) A certificate issued by the Secretary of the State under subsection 1636 (a) of this section may be relied upon as conclusive evidence of the

- facts set forth in the certificate.
- Sec. 34. Subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of section 34-247k of the
- 1639 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 1640 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- 1641 (5) In the case of a foreign limited liability company, <u>any alternate</u>
- name adopted under section 34-275e, its governing jurisdiction and
- [any alternate name adopted under subsection (a) of section 34-275e] if
- 1644 the law of the governing jurisdiction requires the company to maintain
- an office in that jurisdiction, the street and mailing addresses of the
- 1646 <u>required office</u>.
- Sec. 35. Subsections (f) and (g) of section 34-275a of the general
- statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
- 1649 (Effective July 1, 2017):
- 1650 (f) A foreign limited liability company, by transacting business in
- this state without a foreign registration [statement] certificate, appoints
- the Secretary of the State as its agent for service of process with respect
- to a cause of action arising out of the transaction of business in this
- state. Such foreign limited liability company may be served in the
- manner provided in subsection (b) of section 34-243r.
- 1656 (g) A foreign limited liability company which transacts business in
- this state without a valid foreign registration [statement] certificate
- shall be liable to this state, for each year or part thereof during which it
- transacted business in this state without such certificate, in an amount
- 1660 equal to: (1) All fees and taxes which would have been imposed by law
- 1661 upon such limited liability company had it duly applied for and
- received such registration to transact business in this state, and (2) all
- interest and penalties imposed by law for failure to pay such fees and
- taxes. A foreign limited liability company is further liable to this state,
- 1665 for each month or part thereof during which it transacted business in
- this state without a valid foreign registration [statement] certificate, in
- an amount equal to three hundred dollars, except that a foreign limited
- liability company which has registered with the Secretary of the State

1669 not later than ninety days after it has commenced transacting business

- in this state shall not be liable for such monthly penalty. Such fees and
- penalties may be levied by the Secretary of the State. The Attorney
- 1672 General may bring proceedings to recover all amounts due this state
- under the provisions of this subsection.
- Sec. 36. Section 34-275b of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 1675 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- To register to do business in this state, a foreign limited liability
- 1677 company must deliver a foreign registration [statement] certificate to
- the Secretary of the State for filing. The [statement] certificate shall set
- 1679 forth:
- 1680 (1) The name of the company and, if the name does not comply with
- section 34-243k, an alternate name adopted pursuant to subsection (a)
- 1682 of section 34-275e;
- 1683 (2) That the company is a foreign limited liability company;
- 1684 (3) The name of the company's governing jurisdiction;
- 1685 (4) The street and mailing addresses of the company's principal
- 1686 office and, if the law of the governing jurisdiction requires the
- 1687 company to maintain an office in that jurisdiction, the street and
- mailing addresses of the required office;
- 1689 (5) The name and address of the agent in this state for service of
- 1690 process on the foreign limited liability company required to be
- maintained by [subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 34-247]
- section 34-243n and an acceptance of such appointment signed by the
- agent appointed if other than the Secretary of the State;
- 1694 (6) The name and respective business and residence addresses of a
- manager or a member of the foreign limited liability company, except
- 1696 that, if good cause is shown, the Secretary of the State may accept a
- business address in lieu of business and residence addresses of such
- manager or member. For the purposes of this subdivision, a showing

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of good cause shall include, but <u>need</u> not be limited to, a showing that public disclosure of the residence address of the manager or member of the foreign limited liability company may expose the personal security of such manager or member to significant risk; and

- 1703 (7) The electronic mail address, if any, of the foreign limited liability 1704 company.
- Sec. 37. Section 34-275c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- A registered foreign limited liability company shall deliver to the Secretary of the State for filing an amendment to its foreign registration [statement] certificate if there is a change in: (1) The name of the company; or (2) the company's governing jurisdiction. [; (3) an address required by subdivision (4) of section 34-275b; or (4) the information required by subdivision (5) of section 34-275b.]
- Sec. 38. Section 34-275f of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- (a) When a registered foreign limited liability company has merged into a foreign [entity] <u>limited liability company</u> that is not registered to transact business in this state, [or has converted to a foreign entity required to register with the Secretary of the State to transact business in this state,] the <u>nonregistered</u> foreign [entity] <u>limited liability company</u> shall deliver to the Secretary of the State for filing an application for transfer of registration. The application must state:
- 1722 (1) The name of the registered foreign limited liability company 1723 before the merger; [or conversion;]
- 1724 (2) That before the merger [or conversion] the registration pertained 1725 to a foreign limited liability company;
- 1726 (3) The name of the applicant foreign [entity] <u>limited liability</u>
 1727 <u>company</u> into which the foreign limited liability company has merged,
 1728 [or to which it has been converted,] and, if the name does not comply

with section 34-243k, an alternate name adopted pursuant to subsection (a) of section 34-275e;

- 1731 (4) The [type of entity of the applicant foreign entity and its]
 1732 governing jurisdiction of the applicant foreign limited liability
 1733 company;
- (5) The street and mailing addresses of the principal office of the applicant foreign [entity] <u>limited liability company</u> and, if the law of the [entity's] <u>foreign limited liability company's</u> governing jurisdiction requires the [entity] <u>foreign limited liability company</u> to maintain an office in that jurisdiction, the street and mailing addresses of that office;
- 1740 (6) The name and [street and mailing addresses of the applicant 1741 foreign entity's registered agent in this state] <u>address of the agent in</u> 1742 <u>this state for service of process on the foreign limited liability company</u> 1743 required to be maintained by subsection (b) of section 34-247;

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- (7) The name and respective business and residence addresses of a manager or a member of the foreign limited liability company, except that, if good cause is shown, the Secretary of the State may accept a business address in lieu of business and residence addresses of such manager or member. For the purposes of this subdivision, a showing of good cause shall include, but need not be limited to, a showing that public disclosure of the residence address of the manager or member of the foreign limited liability company may expose the personal security of such manager or member to significant risk; and
- 1753 (8) The electronic mail address, if any, of the foreign limited liability 1754 company.
- (b) When an application for transfer of registration takes effect, the registration of the foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state is transferred without interruption to the foreign [entity] <u>limited liability company</u> into which the foreign company has merged. [or to which it has been converted.]

Sec. 39. Section 34-275g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):

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- (a) The foreign registration [statement] certificate of a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state may be revoked by the Secretary of the State upon the conditions provided in this section when: (1) The foreign limited liability company has failed to file its annual report with the Secretary of the State; (2) a wilful misrepresentation has been made of any material matter in any application, report, affidavit or other document, submitted by such foreign limited liability company pursuant to sections 34-275 to 34-275i, inclusive; (3) the foreign limited liability company is exceeding the authority conferred upon it by said sections; or (4) the foreign limited liability company is without an agent upon whom process may be served in this state for sixty days or more.
- (b) On the happening of an event set forth in subdivision (1), (2), (3) or (4) of subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary of the State shall give not less than twenty days' written notice to the foreign limited liability company that the Secretary intends to revoke the foreign registration [statement] certificate of such foreign limited liability company for one of said causes, specifying the same. Such notice shall be given by registered or certified mail addressed to the foreign limited liability company at its address as last shown on the records of the Secretary of the State. If, before expiration of the time set forth in the notice, the foreign limited liability company establishes to the satisfaction of the Secretary of the State that the stated cause for the revocation of its foreign registration [statement] certificate did not exist at the time the notice was mailed or, if it did exist at said time, has been cured, the Secretary of the State shall take no further action. Otherwise, on the expiration of the time set forth in the notice, the Secretary shall revoke the foreign registration [statement] certificate of such foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state.
- (c) Upon revoking the foreign registration [statement] <u>certificate</u> of any foreign limited liability company, the Secretary of the State shall

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file a certificate of revocation in his office and shall: (1) Mail a copy thereof to such foreign limited liability company at its address as last shown on the Secretary's records; and (2) cause notice of the filing of such certificate of revocation to be posted on the office of the Secretary of the State's Internet web site for a period of sixty days following the date on which the Secretary of the State files the certificate of revocation. The filing of such certificate of revocation shall cause the authority of a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state to cease. Notwithstanding the filing of the certificate of revocation, the appointment by a foreign limited liability company of [an attorney] a registered agent upon whom process may be served shall continue in force as long as any liability remains outstanding against the foreign limited liability company in this state.

- Sec. 40. Subsection (a) of section 34-275h of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1808 1, 2017):
- 1809 (a) A registered foreign limited liability company may withdraw its 1810 registration by delivering a [statement] certificate of withdrawal of 1811 registration to the Secretary of the State for filing. The [statement] 1812 certificate of withdrawal of registration must state: (1) The name of the 1813 company and its governing jurisdiction; (2) that the company is not 1814 transacting business in this state and that it withdraws its registration 1815 to transact business in this state; (3) that the company revokes the 1816 authority of its registered agent to accept service on its behalf in this 1817 state; (4) that the company surrenders its authority to transact business 1818 in this state; and (5) an address to which service of process may be 1819 made under subsection (b) of this section.
- Sec. 41. Section 34-279i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2017*):
- 1822 (a) Unless otherwise provided in the certificate of organization or 1823 operating agreement of the limited liability company, a plan of merger 1824 must be consented to by two-thirds in interest of the members of the

- 1825 limited liability company.
- 1826 (b) Subject to any contractual rights, after a merger is approved, and
- at any time before [articles] a certificate of merger [are delivered to the
- 1828 Secretary of the State for filing under section 34-279j] becomes
- 1829 <u>effective</u>, a merging limited liability company may amend the plan <u>of</u>
- 1830 merger or abandon the merger: (1) As provided in the plan; or (2)
- 1831 except as otherwise prohibited in the plan, with the same consent as
- 1832 was required to approve the plan.
- Sec. 42. Subsection (d) of section 34-279j of the general statutes is
- repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 1835 1, 2017):
- 1836 (d) [Each merging] The surviving limited liability company shall
- deliver the certificate of merger for filing in the office of the Secretary
- 1838 of the State.
- 1839 Sec. 43. (Effective from passage) Not later than January 1, 2018, the
- 1840 Secretary of the State shall report, in accordance with the provisions of
- section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of
- 1842 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the
- 1843 judiciary on potential funding sources that may be available to the
- 1844 Secretary for modifications and updates to, or replacement of, the
- 1845 Secretary of the State's CONCORD commercial records database in
- 1846 order to promote and enhance implementation of business friendly
- 1847 initiatives.
- 1848 Sec. 44. Subsection (c) of section 33-784 of the general statutes is
- 1849 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 1850 *October* 1, 2017):
- (c) For purposes of this section: (1) "Holder" means, and "held by"
- 1852 refers to shares held by, both a record shareholder, as defined in
- subdivision (7) of section 33-855, as amended by this act, and a
- beneficial shareholder; [, as defined in subdivision (2) of section 33-
- 1855 855;] and (2) "qualified shares" means all shares entitled to be voted

with respect to the transaction except for shares that the secretary or other officer or agent of the corporation authorized to tabulate votes either knows, or under subsection (b) of this section is notified, are held by (A) a director who has a conflicting interest respecting the transaction, or (B) a related person of the director, excluding a person described in subparagraph (F) of subdivision (5) of section 33-781, as amended by this act.

Sec. 45. Subsection (b) of section 33-896 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2017*):

(b) Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section shall not apply in the case of a corporation that, on the date of the filing of the proceeding, has shares that are: (A) Listed on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or any exchange owned or operated by the NASDAQ Stock Market LLC, or listed or quoted on a system owned or operated by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc.; or (B) not so listed or quoted, but are held by at least three hundred shareholders and the shares outstanding have a market value of at least twenty million dollars exclusive of the value of such shares held by the corporation's subsidiaries, senior executives, directors and beneficial shareholders owning more than ten per cent of such shares. [As used in this subsection, "beneficial shareholder" has the meaning specified in subdivision (2) of section 33-855.]

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2017	33-756
Sec. 2	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 3	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 4	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 5	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 6	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 7	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 8	October 1, 2017	New section

Sec. 9	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 10	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 11	October 1, 2017	33-605(a)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2017	33-636
Sec. 13	October 1, 2017	33-781(5)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2017	33-785
Sec. 15	October 1, 2017	33-817
Sec. 16	October 1, 2017	33-856
Sec. 17	October 1, 2017	33-860
Sec. 18	October 1, 2017	33-861
Sec. 19	October 1, 2017	33-862
Sec. 20	October 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 21	October 1, 2017	33-602
Sec. 22	October 1, 2017	33-814
Sec. 23	October 1, 2017	33-855
Sec. 24	October 1, 2017	33-1358(a)(2)
Sec. 25	July 1, 2017	34-243a(12)
Sec. 26	July 1, 2017	34-243h(g)
Sec. 27	July 1, 2017	34-243p
Sec. 28	July 1, 2017	34-243u
Sec. 29	July 1, 2017	34-247(c)
Sec. 30	July 1, 2017	34-247d(a)
Sec. 31	July 1, 2017	34-247f
Sec. 32	July 1, 2017	34-247g
Sec. 33	July 1, 2017	34-247j
Sec. 34	July 1, 2017	34-247k(a)(5)
Sec. 35	July 1, 2017	34-275a(f) and (g)
Sec. 36	July 1, 2017	34-275b
Sec. 37	July 1, 2017	34-275c
Sec. 38	July 1, 2017	34-275f
Sec. 39	July 1, 2017	34-275g
Sec. 40	July 1, 2017	34-275h(a)
Sec. 41	July 1, 2017	34-279i
Sec. 42	July 1, 2017	34-279j(d)
Sec. 43	from passage	New section
Sec. 44	October 1, 2017	33-784(c)
Sec. 45	October 1, 2017	33-896(b)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which makes various changes to statutes governing Limited Liability Companies (LLC) and business corporations, has no fiscal impact.

House "A" removed the requirement of the creation of a new business entity known as a series LLC. This change eliminates the reprogramming needed for the CONCORD system; eliminating a cost of approximately \$375,000 to \$600,000 in FY 19.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 7311 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT CONCERNING LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES AND BUSINESS CORPORATIONS.

SUMMARY

This bill makes numerous changes to statutes governing business corporations and limited liability companies (LLCs). Principally, it (1) revises the Connecticut Business Corporation Act (§§ 1-24 & 44-45) and (2) makes minor and technical changes to the Connecticut Uniform LLC Act, which was passed in 2016 and is effective July 1, 2017 (§§ 25-42).

With respect to corporations, the bill does the following:

- 1. establishes standards for director liability that are separate from those for director conduct (§§ 1-2),
- 2. establishes a statutory process for corporations to ratify and validate certain defective actions (§§ 3-10),
- 3. allows a corporation's certificate of incorporation to waive or limit a requirement that directors and officers disclose certain outside business opportunities (§§ 11-14),
- 4. establishes a process for a merger or share exchange to be effectuated without shareholder approval (§§ 15-19),
- 5. allows the certificate of incorporation or bylaws to require that any or all internal corporate claims be brought exclusively in certain courts (§ 20), and
- 6. makes minor changes to certain definitions (§§ 21-24 & 44-45).

The bill also requires the secretary of the state (SOTS) to report to the Judiciary Committee, by January 1, 2018, on potential funding sources that may be available to modify and update, or replace, the CONCORD commercial records database in order to promote and enhance implementation of business friendly initiatives (§ 43). Lastly, it makes numerous minor, technical, and conforming changes.

*House Amendment "A" (1) adds the report by the secretary, (2) eliminates provisions in the underlying bill authorizing the formation of "series LLCs" (i.e., an LLC that serves as an umbrella organization for one or more separate entities), and (3) makes technical and conforming changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage for the SOTS report; July 1, 2017 for the Uniform LLC Act provisions; and October 1, 2017 for the corporation-related provisions.

§§ 1-24 & 44-45 — CONNECTICUT BUSINESS CORPORATION ACT

Standards for Director Conduct and Liability (§§ 1-2)

Current law prescribes standards of conduct that corporate directors must follow and generally provides that a director is not liable for actions, or failure to take actions, if he or she acted in conformance with these standards. The bill (1) instead establishes standards for director liability that are separate from those for director conduct and (2) makes minor changes to the conduct standards (e.g., explicitly requires a director to disclose certain material information to other board or committee members if not known to them).

With respect to liability, the bill requires that the party asserting liability against a director establish that no defenses interposed by the director preclude liability. These defenses are based on the following:

1. provisions in the certificate of incorporation that (a) limit the amount of money damages a director may personally be liable for or (b) allow him or her to pursue outside business opportunities (see §§ 11-14 below) and

2. provisions in existing law that allow a director, under certain circumstances, to participate in a conflicting interest transaction or take advantage of a business opportunity.

The party asserting liability must also establish that the challenged conduct consisted of or was the result of at least one of the following:

- 1. an action not in good faith;
- 2. a decision the director (a) did not reasonably believe to be in the corporation's best interests or (b) was not informed about to an extent he or she reasonably believed appropriate;
- 3. a lack of objectivity due to a relationship (e.g., familial or business) with or lack of independence from another person with a material interest in the challenged conduct, and the challenged conduct was not in the corporation's best interest;
- 4. the director's sustained failure to devote attention, or timely attention, to ongoing oversight of the corporation's business and affairs; or
- 5. the director receiving a financial benefit to which he or she was not entitled, or any other breach of his or her duties to deal fairly with the corporation and its shareholders.

The bill also establishes additional burdens (e.g., proving harm) based on the type of damages sought (i.e., money damages or other money payment under a legal or equitable remedy).

The bill specifies that it does not alter (1) a director's liability under provisions in existing law that provide for liability in specific instances, such as unlawful distributions or transactional interests, or (2) the burden of proving fairness or lack thereof in instances where fairness is at issue. Additionally, it does not affect any corporation or shareholder rights under the U.S. Code or other provisions in state law.

Ratifying and Validating Defective Corporate Actions (§§ 3-10)

The bill establishes a statutory process under which corporations may ratify or validate defective corporate actions, including an overissuance of shares. It specifies that these provisions are not the exclusive means for ratifying or validating defective actions and explicitly authorizes the Superior Court to declare defective actions valid.

Definitions. Table 1 lists the definitions of certain terms relevant to this process.

Term Definition Corporate Any action taken by or on behalf of the corporation action (1) A corporate action purportedly taken that is within the Defective action corporation's power (and was within its power at the time it was purportedly taken) but is void or voidable because of a failure of authorization or (2) an overissue (see below) Failure of Failure to authorize, approve, or otherwise effect a corporate authorization action in accordance with state corporation laws, the corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws, a corporate resolution, or any plan or agreement to which the corporation is a party, if and to the extent the failure would render the corporate action void or voidable Overissue The purported issuance of shares of a class or series (1) exceeding the number of shares the corporation had the power to issue at the time of the issuance or (2) not then authorized for issuance by the certificate of incorporation Putative shares Shares of any class or series that were created or issued as a result of a defective corporate action that (1) would be valid but for the failure of authorization or (2) cannot be determined by the board of directors to be valid shares

Table 1: Related Definitions

Process. To ratify a defective action, the board of directors must take action that states the following:

1. the defective action to be ratified and, if applicable, the number

and type of putative shares purportedly issued;

2. the date of the defective action and nature of the authorization failure; and

3. that the board of directors approves the ratification of the defective action.

Under the bill, the quorum and voting requirements that apply to the directors' ratifying action are the same as those that apply to the action to be ratified. The bill also specifies the conditions under which the board may abandon ratification.

The bill establishes a separate process for ratifying the election of the corporation's initial board of directors. Under this process, a majority of the persons exercising directors' powers at the time of ratification may take an action that states the following:

- 1. the name of the person or persons that first took action in the corporation's name as its initial board of directors;
- 2. the date on which they first took such action or were purported to have been elected as the initial board, whichever is earlier; and
- 3. that the ratification of the election of such person or persons as the initial board of directors is approved.

Shareholder Approval. The bill requires, for all defective actions, shareholder approval of the ratification if such approval would have been required for the initial action. It establishes notice, quorum and voting, and other procedural requirements for shareholders' approval of the ratification (e.g., notice of the timeframes for bringing claims related to the validation).

If the ratification of a defective action does not require shareholder approval, the bill requires the corporation to notify all holders of valid and putative shares of the ratification. The bill specifies the notice's

required contents.

Ratification Resulting in Overissuance. Under the bill, if ratifying putative shares would result in an overissue, the corporation must also amend its certificate of incorporation to (1) increase the number of shares of a class or series or (2) create a new class or series.

Filings. Under the bill, if a defective corporate action would have required a filing under state corporation laws, then the corporation must file a certificate of validation with the secretary of the state, regardless of whether a filing was previously made. The certificate must identify:

- 1. the defective action and the date it was taken, including information about any putative shares issued;
- 2. the nature of the failure of authorization;
- 3. a statement that the defective action was ratified under the bill's provisions, including the date of ratification and shareholder approval, if applicable; and
- 4. information about any previous filings relating to the action.

If a filing was not previously made but would have been required to effect the defective action, then such a filing must be attached to the certificate. The bill specifies that the certificate of validation amends or substitutes for any other required filing with respect to the defective action.

Effect of Ratification. Under the bill, a ratification becomes effective upon the later of (1) shareholder approval or, if shareholder approval is not required, when notice to the shareholders becomes effective and (2) the time at which the certificate of validation becomes effective. The bill refers to this as the "validation effective time." Unless ordered by the court, the validation effective time is not affected by pending judicial proceedings.

A defective corporate action ratified under the bill is deemed a valid corporate action as of the date of the defective action. Putative shares are deemed identical shares or fractions of valid shares as of the time they were purportedly issued. The bill makes actions taken in reliance of the defective action, as well as subsequent defective actions resulting directly or indirectly from the original defective action, valid as of the time taken.

Court Action. The bill allows the Superior Court to (1) determine the validity and effectiveness of any corporate action or defective corporate action, or ratification of a defective action; (2) determine the validity of any putative shares; and (3) modify or waive the bill's procedures for ratifying defective corporate actions. It requires that any action challenging the ratification of a defective action or putative shares be brought within 120 days after the validation's effective date.

Notice of Directors' and Officers' Business Opportunities (§§ 11-14)

Existing law provides a safe harbor for a director considering possible involvement (whether directly or indirectly) with a prospective business opportunity that might constitute a "corporate opportunity." It allows a director to present a business opportunity to the board or its shareholders for consideration. A director who receives a disclaimer of the corporation's interest in the matter may pursue the opportunity on his or her own behalf with protection from damages or other remedies in a lawsuit brought by the corporation or its shareholders. (Under the common law corporate opportunity doctrine, a corporation has a right to act before its director does on certain business opportunities that come to the director's attention.)

The bill expands this safe harbor protection to cover a corporation's officers, not only its directors. It also allows corporations to include in the certificate of incorporation a provision that limits or eliminates a director's, officer's, or other person's duty to offer the corporation potential business opportunities before these persons pursue the opportunity themselves. In order to apply such a provision to an

officer or person related to the officer, the board of directors must approve the application, after the provision's effective date, by action of qualified directors following existing procedures for authorizing conflict of interest transactions. Any application to officers or persons related to them may also be limited by the board.

Existing law generally defines "qualified directors" as those who, with respect to certain actions, are disinterested and independent (i.e., have no conflict of interest). The bill defines "qualified director," for purposes of limiting or eliminating an officer or related person's corporate opportunity duties, as one (1) to whom the limitation or elimination of an officer's duties to offer potential business opportunities would not apply and (2) who does not have a material relationship with any other person to whom the limitation or elimination would apply.

The bill makes various changes to current law's definition of "related person" for purposes of a corporate opportunity and other conflict of interest provisions. First, it expands the definition to include people related to officers and other individuals, not just people related to directors as under current law. It also adds the following familial relations with respect to the individual or individual's spouse: stepchild, stepparent, grandparent, stepsibling, half-sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew, or the spouse of any such individual. Finally, it removes a reference to trusts or estates to which a related person is a substantial beneficiary.

The bill also makes various minor and technical changes (e.g., requires that the certificate of incorporation include the mailing address of the corporation's initial registered office, not just the street address).

Shareholder Approval of Two-Step Mergers (§§ 15-19)

Generally, a two-step merger is one in which the buyer first makes a tender offer to acquire the target company's stock. In the second step, the buyer commences a "back-end" merger to acquire the target

company's stock not acquired under the tender offer. Under current law, the plan for such a merger or share exchange is generally subject to shareholder approval.

The bill establishes a process under which a plan of merger or share exchange may be effectuated without shareholder approval unless the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Under the bill, each of the following requirements in the process must be met.

- 1. The plan must expressly permit or require that it be effected under the bill's provisions as soon as practicable after the tender offer (see Tender Offer below).
- 2. Another party to the merger, the acquiring corporation in the share exchange, or a parent of such entities, must offer to purchase any and all outstanding shares that, absent the bill's provisions, would be entitled to vote on the merger or exchange. The offer may exclude shares owned at the commencement of the offer by (a) the corporation; (b) the offeror or offeror's parent; or (c) a wholly owned subsidiary of the corporation, offeror, or any wholly owned subsidiary of any of them.
- 3. The offer must disclose that shares of the corporation not tendered in response to the offer will be acquired for the same consideration set forth in the tender offer (see Outstanding Shares below).
- 4. The offer must remain open for at least 10 days.
- 5. The offeror must purchase all shares properly tendered and not properly withdrawn.
- 6. After the tender offer closes, the buyer must own enough shares to cast at least the minimum number of votes on the merger or exchange that would otherwise be required for approval under current law and the certificate of incorporation (see Tender Offer below).

7. The offeror or wholly owned subsidiary merges with or into the corporation, or effects an exchange in which it acquires shares of the corporation.

8. Shares of the corporation not tendered in response to the offer must be acquired for the same consideration set forth in the tender offer (see Outstanding Shares below).

Tender Offer. Under the bill, the shares identified below must be collectively entitled to cast at least the minimum number of votes on the merger or exchange that would otherwise be required for approval under current law and the certificate of incorporation. These include the following shares:

- 1. shares purchased by the offeror in accordance with the offer;
- 2. shares otherwise owned by the offeror or offeror's parent or wholly owned subsidiary; and
- 3. shares subject to an agreement that are to be transferred, contributed, or delivered to the offeror, parent, or subsidiary in exchange for shares in the offeror, parent, or subsidiary.

Outstanding Shares. Under the bill, each share of each class or series of shares that the offeror offers to purchase, but does not purchase, must be converted into the same amount and kind of securities, interests, obligations, rights, cash, or other property to be paid or exchanged in accordance with the offer for each share of the class or series tendered in response to the offer. The bill specifies that certain types of shares (e.g., those owned by the offeror) do not need to be converted into or exchanged for consideration.

Other Provisions. The bill allows a certificate of incorporation to limit or eliminate, for a merger or share exchange, the separate voting rights possessed by certain classes or series of shares. This provision does not apply if the merger or exchange (1) includes what is or would be in effect an amendment to the certificate of incorporation and (2)

does not effect a substantive business combination.

Lastly, the bill makes numerous minor, technical, and conforming changes governing mergers and share exchanges. For example, it specifies (1) that shareholders are entitled to appraisal rights (i.e., a judicial determination of a share's fair value) in connection with the mergers and exchanges authorized under the bill and (2) how shareholders must assert their appraisal rights. It also specifies that a certificate of incorporation cannot limit or eliminate appraisal rights if the class or series does not have the right to vote separately on the action as a voting group, alone, or as part of a group.

Forum for Internal Corporate Claims (§ 20)

The bill allows a corporation's certificate of incorporation or bylaws to require that any or all internal corporate claims be brought exclusively in one or more Connecticut courts or any additional courts in Connecticut or other jurisdictions with which the corporation has a reasonable relationship.

The bill specifies that such a provision does not apply if the specified courts do not have the requisite personal and subject matter jurisdiction. It allows a claim to be brought in a state court not specified in the provision if (1) the court has personal and subject matter jurisdiction and (2) none of the specified state courts has such jurisdiction. The bill prohibits the certificate of incorporation or bylaws from barring the use of Connecticut courts for internal corporate claims or requiring that they be determined by arbitration.

The bill defines an internal corporate claim as follows:

- 1. a claim based on a violation of a duty under state law by a current or former director, officer, or shareholder in such capacity;
- 2. a derivative action or proceeding brought on behalf of the corporation;

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3. an action that asserts a claim under the state's corporation laws or the certificate of incorporation or bylaws; or

4. any other action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine.

Definitions (§§ 21-24 & 44-45)

The bill makes several minor and technical changes to definitions used in the Connecticut Business Corporation Act. For example, it adds definitions to conform to other changes made by the bill (e.g., "acquired" and "acquiring" corporation). It also makes certain definitions (e.g., "merger" and "share exchange") applicable to the entire act, rather than just a specific group of statutes as under current law.

§§ 25-42 — CONNECTICUT UNIFORM LLC ACT

In 2016, the legislature enacted the Connecticut Uniform LLC Act (PA 16-97), which is effective July 1, 2017, and replaces current state law governing LLCs. The bill makes several minor and technical changes to the uniform act, including the following:

- 1. replaces the phrase "certificate of good standing" with "certificate of legal existence" and eliminates provisions that specify the certificate's required contents;
- 2. replaces several references to "statement" with references to "certificate";
- 3. specifies that the fee for a certificate of legal existence for a foreign LLC is the same as the fee for a certificate for a domestic LLC (\$50);
- 4. requires a foreign LLC to disclose, in its annual report filed with SOTS, the street and mailing address it uses in its home jurisdiction (it must already disclose this information in its registration certificate);

5. eliminates a requirement for a foreign LLC to file an amendment to its registration certificate with SOTS if its address, registered agent, or agent's address changes (under existing law, these changes are disclosed using other forms);

- 6. specifies that the deadline for a merging LLC to amend or abandon the merger is when the certificate of merger becomes effective, rather than when it is delivered to SOTS; and
- 7. requires only the surviving LLC, rather than each merging LLC, to deliver a certificate of merger to SOTS.

Additionally, current law requires a foreign LLC to apply to SOTS for a registration transfer if it merges into a foreign entity that is not registered to transact business in Connecticut or converts to a foreign entity required to register with the secretary. The bill limits the use of a registration transfer to mergers in which the foreign LLC merges into another foreign LLC.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

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Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 39 Nay 0 (04/04/2017)
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